Ponconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

Vol. XXXVII.-New SERIES, No. 1615.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1, 1876.

CONTENTS. BOOLESTASTICAL AFFAIRS: Modern Persecution 1077 The Church Association in Despair 1077 The British Quarterly on Disendowment 1078 The Disitish Quarterly on Disendowment 1078 The Disetablishment Movement 1079 Nonconformists and the Established Church 1079 The Church Association and Ritualism 1080 Sheffield Young Nonconformists' Union 1080 Diocesan Conferences 1081 The Bishop of Gloucester on Unbelief 1081 Religious And Denominational News: Hare Court Chapel, Canonbury 1083 Correspondence: Deconsecration 1085 Clerical Sourrility 1085 Clerical Sourrility 1085 Clerical Sourrility 1085 The Distress in Bul-

Ecclesiustical Affairs.

MODERN PERSECUTION.

SEVERAL incidents have occurred of late, some of which have been recorded in our own columns, and others have made their appearance in recent discussions of the Congregational and Baptist Unions, which converge towards a conclusion not at all agreeable. The sacerdotal exclusiveness of the Established Church is taking a more decidedly social hue. The spirit of excommunication, which almost always inspires a Church body lifted into a position of superiority to other Church bodies, so far as regards ecclesiastical things, is gradually enveloping in its flame a much wider extent of our social economy. The game of the Establishment is now being played, not merely circa sacra, but circa secula. In other words, it appears that there is a revived tendency to stamp out Dissent, wherever there seems to be a chance of so doing, by excluding it from the ordinary rights of untainted citizenship-of taming it by the starving process, and thereby coercing it into submission, or of employing what may be called the extreme rights of property, in lieu of the immediate injunctions of Church authority, to overbear the testimony which men are disposed to give in favour of freedom of conscience as against ecclesiastical arrogance. This tendency shows itself, of course, mainly in the rural districts, e secluded walks of life in which public opinion seldom shows itself. It is not in the proper sense f the word a conspiracy. It does not, in the ma ority of instances, violate the law of the land. But it seems to be a common understanding among the supporters of the State Church that the state of things has arrived at a pass in which the use of every weapon, aggressive and defensive, morally legitimate or illegitimate, to stay the growth and activity of Dissent, has become, not only permissible, but imperative, and that conscience, as well as expediency, prescribes a course of harsh and despotic exclusiveness in managing the ordinary affairs of social life.

We are not disposed to whimper over this. We simply enter our protest against it as a species of persecution. But we are not surprised at it. We have often indicated our expectation that we should have to encounter such a state of affairs. What may be described as "the world's form of Christianity" is not likely to be overcome until the world has used

on its behalf and for its maintenance all the forces which it has at its command. Perhaps we have not yet seen the worst of this kind of thing. Fashion is never tender-hearted, especially as it regards religious differences. It is essentially selfish, as it is essentially vain. It is always jealous of its position, more so than of its aptitude to do good, and it carries this jealousy into any and every domain in which it has privileges to please its taste, or the power to enforce its authority.

We have adverted to this change of front (if, indeed, it may be described as a change, and not merely an extension) far less with a view to rebuke those who are taking part in it, than to confirm the courage of those who, one way or another, are its victims. Such tactics, it may be observed, have never succeeded. You may trample men, actually or metaphorically, into the dust, but if they be faithful men you cannot thereby extinguish the truths of which they are the exponents. Not even the grossest social tyranny can do more than temporarily diminish the influence which their fidelity imparts to the principles they uphold. In the subtlest possible way the message which they have taken upon themselves to proclaim passes by every grosser obstacle which is intended to confine it. The very fragrance which exhales from that which has been morally crushed perfumes the neighbourhood in which the evil deed has been done. The fire which has been apparently stamped out in one region bursts forth with increased intensity in another. What is lost in a material point of view speedily makes its reappearance in a brighter, because more spiritual, phase of activity. It was so when the Gospel won its may against all the severities of the old Pagan World. It was so when the Reformation schieved its triumphs against the harshest opposition of the Roman See. And it will be so against those more modern forms of persecution which property, fashion, and legal status and authority can bring to bear against the advocacy of "a Free Church in a Free State."

The method of warfare which is now being adopted to raise the Establishment above the reach of opposition is not only ineffectual in itself, but is likewise deleterious and weakening to such as resort to it. "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just." To fight with eapons which conscience cannot bless is to induce habits which, in the long run, tend to feebleness. The great movements of society seldom follow for any great length of time the vagaries of any particular section of it. The universal at last overbears the particular. The general sense of justice becomes stronger than the attachment to the claims of privilege. Englishmen especially will soon come to see that this is not the way in which the controversy between the State Church and its opponents ought to be settled; and as they see this and express it, men will be more and more ashamed, even for expediency's sake, to sanction it. "The darkest hour precedes the dawn." The squirearchy which is now blindly led by the clergy will, after a while, discern its humiliating position, and will probably resent it. That there will be any tendency to declare in favour of Dissent we do not believe -we do not even wish. The temper for which we look will, we hope, be one in favour of the freedom of the human mind in all matters

relating to the conscience, and a manly determination not to allow any force but that of reason to be employed in setting aside its decisions. How long it will be before this "consummation devoutly to be wished" will be realised we will not conjecture. But of one thing we are quite sure, that just in proportion to the fidelity of Liberationists when things are at their worst will be the speediness and extent of their triumph when the cloud resting upon them shall begin to pass away.

THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION IN DESPAIR.

THE proceedings of the autumnal conference of the Church Association, held at Clifton last week, appear to have consisted entirely of a series of jeremiads on the subject of Ritualism. The tone was one of abject despondency throughout. The desire of the natural man for flowers and music, and pictures, and carvings; the levity of the "butterflies among the aristocracy"; the cupboard love of the lowest class for Ritualistic gifts and alms; the ponderous inefficiency of the Public Worship Regulation Act; the wickedness of adulterous alliances between Evangelicals and Ritualists in special mission movements; the poison distilled into the minds of children "in boys' and girls' schools, and even in some Sunday-schools" all were bewailed with dolorous sighs and patient griof. But with one exception we do not find the record of any bold or manly proposal for a remedy. Admiral Sir James Sulivan, with sailor-like bluntness, declared that "the time would come, not for secession, but for the Evangelical clergy and laity as one body to go for disestablishment, as it would be better to have a free disestablished Protestant church than an established Roman one." But we do not find that his suggestion was regarded as practical or even serious. The poor Association was reduced to the helpless mood of David when he exclaimed, "All these things are against me." And indeed the whole of the papers and speeches may be summed up in these spiritless words.

Pusillanimous complaints, on the part of men who have a remedy at hand but do not dare to employ it, are calculated to move contempt rather than sympathy. They suggest obvious doubts as to the sincerity of grief and situation so closely, that they permit no direct assault on the evils involved. If we have spoken lightly of the gloom that hung over this lugubrious conference, it is because we believe it to have sat very lightly on the majority of those assembled. Our own opinion of Ritualism, of its treachery to truth, patriotism, and family life, is too well known to need reiteration here. But we lose patience with the unmeaning chatter which forms the whole contribution of these Association meetings towards averting a dread national calamity. They appeal to "the Protestant feeling of the country," and at the same time they glorify with blind fanaticism a State machinery of religion, which was contrived originally for the very purpose of stamping out "the Protestantism of the Protestant religion" They cry to their dear brethren outside the pale of privilege for help, and when they want, like Mr. Valpy at Clifton, to invent a peculiarly offensive epithet for their intestine foes, they

O worse horror!—"Dissenters doubly distilled."
They cackle like an old hen over an addled egg, when they have deposited a futile Act in the Statute-book; and they hold up their hands in pious deprecation of the "political Dissenter," who would improve it by another Act a little more drastic and effectual. They rub away at the outside of the cup and platter, the forms and ceremonies, the gestures and genuficxions, which are odious to their eyes; but they dare not touch the inward rottenness, the Ritualistic implications, and the sacerdotal pretensions, imbedded in the Prayer-book, by which the corruptions they profess to deplore are inevitably generated. What does it matter that they forbid a man to lift a cup above his head, and allow him only to raise it to his forehead, while at the same time they dare not prohibit him from telling the members of his congregation, and the children in his school, that the wine in that cup is an awful thing, a divine miracle worthy of worship? Where is the consistency of maintaining that it is the duty of the national government to care for the eternal salvation of the people, while they do not shrink from complicity with a legal system, which, on their own showing, upholds and pays and fosters pernicious, nay, soul-destroying superstitions? Let us not be misunderstood. We are far from imputing anything like conscious hypocrisy to the members of the Church Association. But the sincerity of feeble conventionalism is one thing, and the sincerity of deep conviction is another. The one cries pathetically amidst a desecrated shrine, "The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Station of the result of moral earnestness and figs of thistles, we shall decline to regard inconsistency, moral cowardice, and worldly expediency, as the result of moral earnestness and evangelical feryour.

If any one thinks this language unchari-

If any one thinks this language uncharitable, let him compare the complaints made at Clifton about Ritualistic abuse of elementary schools, with the enthusiastic sup-port given by the Evangelical clergy to Lord Sandon's Act of last session for nipping Nonconformity in the bud. The Rev. C. H. Davis, we are told, argued that the mischief was going on in schools for children. He is quite right. There are districts in London where the parents of the neighbourhood protest against being compelled to send their children to the Church school because of this very "mischief." But the efforts of the School Board to provide a school more suitable have been denounced and thwarted in every possible manner. Unless we are greatly mistaken, there have not been wanting Evangelical brethren of the Rev. C. H. Davis who, in such cases, have zealously helped to protect the "mischief" of which he complains. But we should like to know what he thinks of Lord Sandon's Act. Consistency would require him to favour every effort for its speedy repeal. But amongst the clergy who sighed and groaned in concert with him over this "mischief," there were certainly many who welcomed that culmination of sectarian injustice as a heavy blow to the Birmingham League. Now, what are we to think of men who affect dismay at the progress of Ritualism in these schools, and who yet, for the sake of a momentary triumph over political opponents and denominational rivals, applaud a law which forces the children of rural Dissenters into these very seminaries of sacerdotalism? The very best we can say of them is, that they are a spectacle of moral vacillation and intellectual weakness, hardly more creditable to the Establishment than the insolent sacerdotalism which they ineffectually denounce and most effectively foster.

It is a melancholy conclusion—but this Church Association drives us to it—that there is no hope of any effective resistance to Ritualism on the part of the Evangelical clergy. They will preach, and they will groan, and they will lift up their eyes more in self-appreciation than in appeal to heaven. But they will not do themselves, and they will not, if they can help it, let others do, the only thing that can be of the slightest avail. If we say "the only thing," it is not intended to deny that there are many half-remedies which an earnest Evangelical party would certainly try at once. Believing, as they do—or say they do—in the duty of the Government to save the souls of the people, they are surely bound to supplement the Public Worship Regulation Act by a Public Preaching Regulation Bill. But we all know very well what that means; and so do they. Therefore they dare not do it. Nor is it the Evangelical clergy alone who are smitten with a moral paralysis just now. However it may be explained, whether through faithlessness, where

national education is concerned, to their avowed principles of religious equality and the necessity of spiritual life to use the Bible aright, or whatever may be the cause—certain it is that the Nonconformists of the present day are tolerating insolences of Popery and prelacy such as would have driven their Puritan fathers to arms. Nay, it may even be that the one possible remedy will come too late. The noxious plant, nurtured under the shelter of the Establishment, is rapidly becoming strong enough to flourish in the open air. And as soon as the Ritualists are sure of this, they will provoke disestablishment; they will face disendowment; they will manipulate the process with Jesuitical skill. Then, having attained their ends, they will dismiss the meek-spirited Evangelicals with one final kick, to flounder for a while as a warning to the world on the weakness of faith, without works to match. And, finally, the outwitted Nonconformists will have to begin with weary labour to lay again in the land the first principles of the doctrine of Christ.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY ON DISENDOWMENT.

The article on "Disestablishment and Disendowment" in the current number of the British Quarterly is of so important and opportune a character that we have thought it desirable to withold it for separate description. The section relating to disestablishment is mainly introductory, and may be passed over with the remark that it deals with effect with the argument that disestablishment would be followed by an increase of Sacerdotalism. Here, however, the writer anticipates himself by referring to the sentiment which should guide the settlement of this question—a sentiment which has often been expounded upon the Liberation platform and in these pages. He argues that "respect, even beyond what strict justice might demand, should be paid to the feelings and interests of those who must suffer by it. Christian principle and generous sentiment would dictate such conduct in any case, but in the divided state of public opinion, and in view of the strength which the Establishment possesses, a sound policy imperatively demands it." Further, however, it is remarked, that "any proposals which are to have a chance of being adopted should not only satisfy the national conscience by their essential motive, but that they should appeal to the popular imagination by their complete-

Having laid down these general principles, the author proceeds to discuss some possible schemes of disendowment, and to express his own judgment as to what should be done. Mr. Hopgood's proposals, published in the Contemporary Review, and since republished as a pamphlet, are rejected. Mr. Hopgood, as is stated, shrinks from the idea of the violent wrench from the past which immediate disendowment and even disestablishment would involve. His plan is one of "painless extinction" -allowing the bishops and clergy to die off and no successors to be appointed. It is judged that, according to this plan, it would take forty years to complete the work of disestablishment. Mr. Hopgood's critic holds that even the whole body of Church defenders would be opposed to this plan, and that there is no warrant for the belief that the Anglican clergy or laity would take the same pleasant view of it as that taken by Mr. Hopgood, for it would still "ultimately deprive their Church of the unjust supremacy they so highly prize," while "it is perfectly certain that the attacking force would be materially weakened as soon as it became evident that even success would not produce immediate and perceptible change." The Establishment, it is held, would remain much the same as it is, and Nonconformists would still be branded as Nonconformists, and they might properly demand that they should not be doomed to endure the same wrong for another generation. Besides, when the sentiment in favour of disestablishment "has acquired the momentum without which any success is impossible, it is idle to suppose that its victorious course will be arrested by such a concession." As a practical objection to this scheme, it is further shown that money would at once have to be raised to compensate the patrons, while Anglicans would be seizing every pretext for reopening the question. Injustice, also, would be done to the Church itself, which, under such circumstances, could not be properly organised; insuperable difficulties of jurisdiction would arise, while the necessary retention of the Ritualists in the Establish. ment would prevent any co-operation of the Evangelicals.

Having disposed of this scheme, the writer proceeds to refer to the precedent of the Irish Church

Disestablishment Act. Excepting its unsatisfactory operation in many respects—which are enumerated -it is to be considered, after all, that "it is only the loss of money which the State has suffered, while on the other hand it has been able to establish perfect religious equality." The more that Act is studied the more one is "struck with the evidences of high statesmanship which it bears throughout," and as a measure of disestablishment, "it is hard to see how it could be improved." It is only the terms of disendowment which need revision. The fact is recognised that the results of disendowment in Ireland have created a strong prejudice against the idea of disestablishment amongst many Liberal politicians; but, while there is no reason why the money of the nation should be squandered, that is a small matter compared with other evils that are threatened. Regarding, at this point, the possible establishment of a clerical body, it is objected-

We admit, indeed, that if the clergy were to be treated as though they were the Church, and an amount of compensation given to the clerical body, or even to a Church body in which the clergy were predominant, which would render them independent of their congregations, things might remain as bad as they are—worse they could hardly be. But unless the laity of the Church, in their blind opposition to disestablishment, are content to play into the hands of the priesthood, such an arrangement could never be made. Nonconformists, so far from being disposed to this, would rather wait for disestablishment until public opinion was so educated as to render it impossible.

The great mistake, it is urged, in the disestablishment of the Irish Church was the recognition and construction of a Church body. Here one of the principles of future disendowment is involved:—

The creation of such a body introduced an entirely new element, in fact, involved the establishment of a new Church; and were so evil a precedent followed in this country, the consequences would, in all probability, be much worse than they have been in Ireland. We have been told again and again, and we are extremely thankful for the reminder, that the Church of England has no corporate interests; and this statement, resting on authority like Dr. Freeman's, suggests the principle on which any act of disendowment should proceed. There is no single corporation to which the ecclesiastical property of the country belongs, and it would be an act of gratuitous folly for the Legislature to create or even recognise one, and enter into dealings with it as to any rights which it may be supposed to possess, as representing those who adhere to the doctrine and ritual at present prescribed by the Act of Uniformity.

After some references to Mr. Harwood, this idea is repeated in another form :—

It is clear that when the State resolves to do away with a National Church, the Episcopalians who now belong to that community have no legal right to regard themselves as a disinherited body, to whom adequate compensation should be made. The nation would undoubtedly rise above a technical view of this kind, and looking at facts as they are, would recognise the equitable claims which might be urged on behalf of those who had largely increased the property of a national institution. But we should demur strongly to the procedent of the Irish Church being followed, or to bishops or to Convocation being treated as representatives of a Church entitled to compensation. It may be that the Episcopalians may choose to place themselves under the rule of their present bishops and clergy, but this should be their own voluntary act. The existing hierarchy is that of the National Church. The Legislature has no right to impose it upon any new Church which may come into existence when the present system has been abolished.

Next come the conditions of any "wise and equitable" settlement of this question. The first is the recognition of the fact that the property consists of separate estates belonging to a number of corporations. The patrons must claim a fair market value for their property, assessed on the most rigid business principles:—

It is not a case in which any regard should be paid to a sentimental unwillingness to part with a venerable heirloom. The nation deems it wise to put an end to a system to which it has hitherto given its warrant, and is bound, both by justice and precedent, to purchase the property which it is resolved to sequestrate, or, rather, to annihilate. But further it is not called upon to go. It is not to be deterred from a great reform because, in some of its incidents, it will be unpleasant to those who are pleased with the notion that they have territorial rights over the souls as well as the bodies of men; nor have they a right to expect compensation for the wound inflicted on their dignity by the withdrawal of this prerogative.

Following these come the clergy, who might, at first, seem to be entitled to be left in the enjoyment of their incomes for their lives. It has been urged, however, that men who are in their prime cannot expect such favourable terms. They would be freed from all obligations of ministerial service, and would be at liberty to form any new engagements, and, therefore, "all demands would be satisfied if the compensations to those of the clergy who are in the fulness of their strength were in an ascending scale according to their age." The writer, however, is in favour of allowing the clergy their incomes for their lives. He adds:—

If it appear to some needlessly generous, it should be remembered that the loss of status will itself be esteemed a humiliation, and probably create bitter resontment, which it assuredly is not desirable to aggravate by inflicting, if not absolute pecuniary loss (and in many cases there must be this), at all events great uncertainty and anxiety. We should not be afraid of showing an excessive liberality to individuals, provided it is not abused so as to provide endowment for a new Church. Our battle is against a system, not against individuals, for the assertion and development of a great principle, rather than for the redistribution of a national estate. We shall not be greatly troubled even though the present race of clergy are gainers in a pecuniary sense by the change, and, in fact, should infinitely prefer that this were the case than that they should be left with any ground for complaint that justice to the Nonconformists and the nation had been secured only by inflicting serious hardship upon them.

A strong objection to this settlement, however, is

A strong objection to this settlement, however, is noticed. Episcopalians might complain that as it would leave the clergy free to decline all services and be continued in their full income, it would be unfair to the congregations. It is considered however, that this objection might be practically overcome.

The parishioners should have the control of buildings and endowments,-

To the parisheners should be left the disposal of the property, whether its buildings or endowments, belonging to the several parishes. The surplus fund which would remain after the satisfaction of all reasonable claims might be appropriated to some object or objects of general utility. The imperial legislature should either strictly define the purposes, or name several from which the parishioners might select one or more. The administration in any case should be local, and one aim should be to give every parish a direct partici-pation in the benefits of the fund.

Concerning parish churches it is submitted that they might be "entrusted to a representative parochial board." The idea of selling them is decisively rejected. It "could hardly be entertained by any one who has a true conception of the intensity of the feeling which has gathered round these venerable edifices," and it would increase the fierceness of the strife. It is judged that in nineteen cases out of twenty the parishioners would appropriate them to the Episcopal Church. That probable result does not disturb the writer.

The Cathedrals and few other churches, which, though not actually cathedrals, are of the rame class, should be exempted from the application of the [above] law. They are national and monumental buildings, which the nation ought to retain in its own hand, caring for their preservation and determining the uses to which they shall be applied.

Modern Endowments, it has been supposed, are held by a different tenure from the older endowments. These, it has been argued, "must be the property of the Anglican Church." The writer sees no validity in the argument, and holds that no distinction can be maintained between the two kinds of property. Having shown this, however, it is added :-

At the same time every one must feel that, whatever be the actual law, these creations of modern benevolence cannot equitably be dealt with on the same principles as the foundations of mediaval times. Where the donors are living, the obvious course would be to give them the right of disposing of that which they had given, and the same privilege might be extended to their immediate heirs. Where the donors are dead, or where the churches have been built by subscription, there seems no better plan than to give the congregations the buildings, and probably the endowments also, or rather the surplus which would remain after satisfying the claims of the patrons and the incumbents.

The article concludes as follows:—

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The article concludes as follows:—
All suggestions for the present must be tentative, and we hope that the promised scheme of the Liberation Society will be of this character. Nothing would be more unwise than to lay down an elaborate scheme in any formal manner, and the prudence with which the work of the Society has always been conducted inspires the confidence that it will make no such attempt. But the time has arrived when the country should have some idea of the general lines on which a plan of disendowment should be constructed.

We shall have done something if we have shown that Noncouformists have no sectarian feeling to gratify, and still less any sectarian interest to promote, in the

Nonconformists have no sectarian feeling to gratify, and still less any sectarian interest to promote, in the settlement; and that their desire is to see a proper jealousy and watchfulness over the rights of the nation, united with the most generous consideration for those who have come, from the lengthened tenure of a great national estate which their Church has enjoyed, to regard it as her own property. We cannot so far consult this feeling as to perpetuate a system of injustice out of deference to it, but our endeavour should be to make the redress of a long standing wrong as inoffensive as possible. as possible.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT MOVEMENT.

MR. GORDON'S MEETINGS.

Of Mr. Gordon's work last week in North Notts, the Nottingham and Midland Counties Express reports as follows:—"On Monday evening last Mr. J. H. Gordon, author of 'Thoughts for the Million,' &c., delivered a lecture in the British Schoolroom, Sutton - in - Ashfield, the subject being 'Objections to the connection of the Church with the State.' He very ably and forcibly maintained his objection on religious, ecclesiastical, political, financial, and social grounds. The Rev. T. B. Adin presided, and was supported by a large and enthusiastic audience, who frequently applauded the lecturer, and at the close carried an approving On the following Tuesday evening Mr. Gordon lectured in the Baptist chapel, Kirkby Folly, on the 'Disestablishment and disendowment of the State-Church.' He, as usual, stated that as

a Christian Church or religious institution the Liberation Society did not seek to interfere, but simply as a State Establishment, or department of civil service. The Rev. C. Barker presided. There was a good attendance, and the usual votes were carried with acclamation.—On Wednesday evening Mr. Gordon again lectured in the Public Hall, Hucknell Tortard on the Popular Assects of the Hucknall Torkard, on the 'Popular Aspects of the Liberation Question,' in which he showed it was for the people to say whether the State-Church should be disestablished or not. There was again a good audience, and a thoroughgoing resolution in favour of disestablishment and disendowment was carried. A vote of thanks to Mr. T. Hardy for presiding terminated the proceedings. We should not omit to mention that Messrs. Baggaley, Cullen, and Shillito attended as a deputation from the Nottingham committee, and that at all the above meetings Mr. William Straw, the district agent, enrolled several new members."

enrolled several new members."

DARLINGTON.—MORE RIOTING.—On Friday evening Mr. Gordon was announced to hold his adjourned meeting in Darlington, and continue his review of recent Church addresses. A number of friends stationed themselves in different parts of the hall, and the superintendent of police, with several officers, was in early attendance, and kept out youngsters. An immense audience assembled, and, at Mr. Gordon's suggestion, elected their own chairman (Mr. Councillor Elwin, a sturdy Nonconformist). The interruption began at once, however, and the proceedings throughout the evening were shameless beyond measure, and a very general feeling of profound indignation is uppermost in the town. The acting mayor has been seen, but the police force belongs to the county, and must be dealt with independently. Mr. Gordon made desperate exertions for a hearing, and at times almost succeeded in overpowering the varied noises that were made, but as soon as this was perceived away they went again. Many influential Churchmen were present, and did anything but stay the rioting, though others have since joined in the indignation. Mr. Gordon had to be guarded to his cab, in a back street, which took a roundabout way home. The thing does not stop here, however, and the friends are determined on victory. The conduct of the other party, unparalleled in Darlington, is only to be accounted for by their utter and conscious impotence in any other direction. DARLINGTON. - MORE RIOTING. -On Friday even-

BINGLEY.—On Wednesday last a meeting was beld at the Mechanics' Institute, Bingley, Mr. J. W. Crabtree in the chair, and Mr. R. Goddard, B. Wainwright, J. King, Elias Thomas, S. Rishworth, J. Crabtree, and others present. The Chairman, in the course of his speech, referred to the Bishop of Ricco's recent address, and to the great change in Ripon's recent address, and to the great change in the attitude of the Methodist body. Mr. Wain-wright moved a resolution in favour of the separation of Church and State, supporting it in a speech of great argumentative breadth. Mr. Goddard seconded, and Mr. J. King supported, the resolution, after which Mr. Elias Thomas, of Bradford, addressed the meeting, referring to many indica-tions of the growth of the Disestablishment principle. The resolution was carried unanimously.

PRUDHOE.—The Rev. J. Browne, of Bradford, lectured in the Co-operative Assembly Rooms here on "First Steps towards Disestablishment," Mr. John Hope, of Hexham, in the chair. Mr. Browne's lectures were a masterly review of what had been done towards disestablishment in the past. Very hearty addresses, enthusiastically received, were

done towards disestablishment in the past. Very hearty addresses, enthusiastically received, were afterwards delivered by the Rev. J. Stuttard, the Rev. J. Deane, and others, and altogether the meeting was a most satisfactory one.

Felling, County Durham.—On Monday, Oct. 23, the Rev. J. Browne, B.A., lectured in the Royal Lecture Hall to a good audience, on "The Arguments of Church Defenders." The kind of opposition shown last year was not repeated, but the meeting closed with the passing of resolutions approving the objects of the Liberation Society, and thanking the lecturer.

thanking the lecturer.

HALTWISTLE.—On Tuesday of last week Mr.

Browne lectured at Haltwistle, Mr. H. B. S. Thompson in the chair. After an appropriate speech from the chairman, Mr. Browne delivered his address, which was well received, and a disesta-

blishment resolution unanimously carried.

A LIVELY SCENE IN THE EAST OF LONDON. public meeting convened by the Church Defence Institution was held at St. Peter's Schoolroom, Hackney-road, to resuscitate the local branch of that society, which existed a few years ago, but fell to pieces through internal divisions. At first there were not more than twenty persons present, and at no time more than forty, a considerable portion of whom were avowed Liberationists. Bishop Beckles, late of Sierra Leone, presided, and the principal speaker was the Rev. Dr. A. Lee, and in the course of his remarks he expressed the belief that at least the remarks he expressed the belief that at least seventy-five per cent. of religious Dissenters—as distinguished from political Dissenters—are Churchmen; a statement which he based on what was euphoniously termed "the growing influx of Dissenting ministers into the ranks of the Church." Mr. H. V. Wigg, the agent of the Liberation Society for the district, inquired at this juncture, as the evening was considerably advanced, if it was the intention of Dr. Lee to move a resolution. The Right Rev. Chairman thought a resolution was not necessary, as he understood the meeting was not to be a public one, the object, obviously, being to exclude an amendment. After some discussion it was decided by the bill itself that the meeting was public, a quibble set up to mutual relation of the two bodies. The agitating party, as they were called, were not merely a few, but the number of avowed Nonconformists, as well as those who were not assuredly so, in sympathy with the policy of disestablishment, was very large. If the "agitators" were that the meeting was public, a quibble set up to

make the contrary appear being overruled by the expressed feeling of the assembly. A resolution, laudatory of the Church Establishment was then laudatory of the Church Establishment was then prepared and formally proposed by Dr. Lee. This was seconded by the Rev. R. W. Loveridge, vicar of St. Philip's, Friar's-mount, Bethnal-green. Mr. Thomas Brooks, a gentleman duly recognised as representing the Episcopal party in the borough of Hackney, supported the motion. He drew a lugubrious picture of what he feared would happen to the inmates of our prisons, poorhouses, and the army, if deprived of the ministrations of the clergy of the Established Church. Such deprivation, he said, would involve the handing over of a vast number of souls to the tender mercies of the Church of Rome. He denied that anyone—not being a Churchman—paid one farthing towards the maintenance of the chaplains in the several departments he had mentioned. He even went so far as to declare that if anyone present could prove that he had contributed towards such expenditure, or indeed to the Establishment at all, he would refund the money "on the spot," and suited the action nad contributed towards such expenditure, or indeed to the Establishment at all, he would refund
the money "on the spot," and suited the action
to the word by thrusting his hand into his pocket.
Mr. Wigg then rose (in answer to a call from the
audience), and moved an amendment. He convulsed a large portion of the meeting by immediately
closing with the munificent generosity of the last
speaker (Mr. Brooks), whom he called upon to
refund to him the sum of 5l. which, in the
parish of Bethnal-green, he had 'paid in the
form of a Church-rate under the more modern
nomenclature of "composition rate." Facts were
against Mr. Brooks. Our soldiers and prisoners
were left to the tender mercies of Papista, who in
two instances at least, were paid for their work,
although the same favour was not vouchsafed to
Wesleyans and Independents. Passing on to the
"pious donor" phase of the question, he asked
Dr. Lee to give the name of the individual who
had bequeathed in perpetuity to the parish church
of Bethnal Green, as a case in point, the small
tithes, garden pennies, and Easter offerings. The
rev. gentleman, observed the speaker, had carefully
avoided the question of tithe. Mr. Wigg was hare of Bethnal Green, as a case in point, the small tithes, garden pennies, and Easter offerings. The rev. gentleman, observed the speaker, had carefully avoided the question of tithe. Mr. Wigg was here interrupted by the right rev. chairman, who insisted on the last remark being retraited, as entirely out of order. Mr. Wigg appealed to the meeting, some confusion ensued, the bishop rising to his feet and declaring that if Mr. Wigg persisted in speaking he would order him to be expelled. Some one on the platform (said to be the earger of St. Peter's) sitting behind Mr. Wigg, gave him a push, and he to save himself from falling made a jump, but as he leant on the table to ease his descent, that improvised piece of furniture, consisting of two treatles and a board, collapsed, to the consternation of some and the no small amusement of others. The bishop at once vacated the chair and left the room, followed by his clerical supporters. The resolution, when a rather excited scene had subsided, was put by some Churchman among the auditory, who said it was carried. But at this time the chair was unoccupied. Thus terminated the proceedings. occupied. Thus terminated the proceedings.

NOECONFORMISTS AND THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. Campbell lectured, on Sunday evening last, in the Horton lane Chapel, Bradford, on "A Brotherly Response to the Two Primates of England; and the Relations of the Nonconformists to the Established Church." We quote the following report of the lecture from the Bradford Observer of Monday. Dr. Campbell took for his text Acts xv. 39, "And the contention was so aharp between them that they departed asunder, one from the other." The rev. gentleman, after referring to the recent addresses of the two archbishops on the relations of the Church of England to Nonconformists, and to discussions in Church conferences, &c., said that Nonconformists must claim the right to set forth their own principles. He claimed to speak in his own name, not as representing his brethren—though at the same time he was convinced that what he said would be concurred in by the great though at the same time he was convinced that what he said would be concurred in by the great body of Nonconformists. After clearly and forcibly describing the principles held by Nonconformists and their growing strength and power, Dr. Campbell said they meant to use that power, as they had always done in the past, for the securing of their civil rights and the removal of those evils which were inherent in all Church establishments. They demanded for all citisens perfect equality in the eye of the law; and they could not have that so long as any Church was disestablished. It was not in a spirit of controversy that he laid open that subject. The chief pastors of the English Church Establishment had been speaking on the subject, and it seemed fitting that Nonconformists should give their opinion on the matter. There seemed to be a very misleading idea in the minds of these critics as to an alleged division among Nonconbe a very misleading idea in the minds of these critics as to an alleged division among Nonconformists as to the disestablishment movement. They spoke of a "small body of violent agitators," and of a large body of Nonconformists who took no part or had no sympathy with the movement. There were, no doubt, two bodies; but the Primates did not seem to be at all aware of what was the rower of the "acitators," and what was the the power of the "agitators," and what was the mutual relation of the two bodies. The agitating

1080

duced that tremor of expectation of the final duced that tremor of expectation of the final struggle which the utterances of the Primates gave evidence of. The principles which the "agitators" put forward were firmly held by all Nonconformists. It was, in fact, the mission of the Nonconformists to expound, enforce, and defend those principles; and they were doing so whenever in their chapels they set forth the claims of the spiritual kingdom of Christ. It was the duty and the mission of the Nonconformists also to accurate the mission of the Nonconformists also to arouse the mission of the Nonconformists also to arouse the citizens of the country as such to see that the establishment of any church was a political wrong—a wrong which ought to be put right by those to whom political influence in this country was committed. Who would question this right of citizens of a free nation to address their fellow subjects on a matter which they believed ought to interest them? Any division then that existed among Nonconformists did not touch the main question. It conformists did not touch the main question. It might be asked why was there any division at all? might be asked why was there any division at all? It was simply a question of policy or expediency; a difference as to the way of doing a thing which all agreed would be, if it were done, one of the greatest blessings of modern times. Many Nonconformists desired from the force of habit to go on the lines that their fathers had gone on. They were thankful for the amount of liberty that they enjoyed; they knew that they had had to wrench from most reluctant hands their freedom to worship God at all, because they would not really have worshipped at all if they had succumbed to the evil against which their whole nature protested. They thought, however, that their fathers had done very well without a Liberation Society, and they argued most truly that every conventicle which they established was a Liberation Society in a two-fold sense. They could not deny, however, that their fathers had used every means in their power to remove the disabilities under which they suffered, and that it would become their children to use the means which they possessed in order to complete the work. In this way they were working attention at all? which they possessed in order to complete the work. In this way they were working steadily for the same end, and he would have their critics understand that there was, deep in the hearts of all Nonconformists, a feeling approaching to contempt and derision for all ideas of toleration and of the "nationality" of the Established Church. They knew that Dissenters formed a large part of the nation, and no Established Church could therefore be a National Church. There was no doubt about what was the desire and the hope of both bodies of Nonconformists—the "agitators" and those who preferred to work quietly; and that object was disestablishment. The speaker next dealt with a number of errors or misconceptions as which they possessed in order to complete the work. dealt with a number of errors or misconceptions as to the policy which Nonconformists pursued. In conclusion Dr. Campbell said that Nonconformists had a feeling of pain amounting to the pain of affront, at the talk that was held as to the concessions that were to be made to them. What would Churchmen think of us if we accepted them; what would they think of themselves when they offered them? That Nonconformists should receive new orders in the Church! That they should ceive new orders in the Church! That they should hold a sort of lay office in affiliation with the Church! That their dead should be buried in the churchyards in silence, or with a hymn previously marked and stamped as all correct! Nonconformists wanted no concessions; they demanded their rights, and to obtain those they were content to work and wait. Let Churchmen, if they felt in work and wait. Let Churchmen, if they felt in their consciences that they were in the right, con-tinue to hold their position as long as they could; but let the Nonconformists act in the same way and seek to gain what they considered a righteous object. In the meantime, there need be no sharp-ness in their discussion; all could work together to promote God's Kingdom.

THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION AND RITUALISM.

The autumnal conference of the Church Association was held at the Victoria Rooms, Clifton, on Wednesday and Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas R. Andrews, chairman of the council, and it was largely attended by clergy and laity from all parts of the country. On the first day Bishop Anderson delivered an address on "Spiritual Worship," which was followed by the president's address, reviewing the active work of the association, congratulating them on the passing of the Public Worship Act, speaking hopefully of the result of the pending appeal, and warning his hearers not to conjure up possibilities and eventualities which might never arise. The Rev. Joseph Bardsley next read an elaborate and carefully-written paper on "The importance of the legal proceedings instituted by the association." Messrs. Valpy and Inskip, Admiral Sir James Sulivan, Canon Ryle, and others took part in the discussion, and the Rev. C. H. Davis, in speaking of the doctrine of the Real Presence, and the ritual as illustrated by the Ven. Archdeacon Denison, said the doctrines which the archdeacon propagated were blusphemous, and there was no term of condemnation which could be too strong for them. The archdeacon asked for liberty, but the liberty Archdeacon Denison wanted was on the principle that "every man should have the right to wallop his own nigger" (Loud laughter.) The Rev. Canon Ryle hoped that in any event they would stick to the Church of England. Let them stick to the ship, and never for ake it so long as the timbers stood together. The middle-class of the country were on their side, and with the exception of a few butterflies among the aristocracy and some of the lowest class among the aristocracy and some of the lowest class among the people, influenced by

gifts of bread and soup, the bulk of the people of the country were determined to have the Church of England Protestant or no Church of England at all. (Cheers.) In the afternoon a paper on "Special missions and services—their advantages and dangers," read by the Rev. John Richardson, of Camberwell, gave rise to a lively discussion on the danger of the alliance of the Evangelical section of the Church with the Ritualistic clergy in the approaching mission in Bristol, to be held in January. Most of the speakers deprecated such an association, and condemned it most strongly; but the Rev. J. B. Clifford regretted that such remarks were made, and the Rev. W. Hay Chapman denied that they had done anything approaching a compromise of truth by arranging to carry on simultaneous services. Simultaneous services were one thing, and active co-operation quite a different matter. The Rev. W. Eliot spoke on the same side, and observed that in the forthcoming Bristol mission forty-four parishes had agreed to join, and only three in the whole of Bristol had refused. The Rev. S. A. Walker deprecated any union with Ritualists. He characterised the Ritualists as impostors and "the party of Baal"—if they joined whom they would be only repeating the deadly error committed by Jehosaphat the King of Judah. (Hear, hear.) On the second day Mr. James Bateman, F.R.S., read a paper on "Ritualism, the extent of the outbreak, and the necessity for more earnest action on the part of the laity to repress it." He urged them to return not a single Ritualist at the next election, and he believed that if they got a Parliament of Protestants, such an assembly would soon set everything right. The proceedings of the Conference were brought to a close on Thursday evening with a public meeting at the Lesser Colston Hall, under the presidency of Bishop Anderson. Resolutions giving pledges of support to the association were passed, and in the course of the proceedings the Rev. Canon Ryle, of Stradbroke, warmly denounced what he termed the abominable, be

SHEFFIELD YOUNG NONCONFORMISTS' UNION.

(From the Sheffield Independent.)

The inaugural soirce of this Union took place on Monday evening, in the old dining-room of the Cutlers' Hail. Mr. R. E. Leader, B.A., the president of the Union, occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. Alfred Illingworth, Bradford; Mr. Henry Lee, J.P. for Mauchester; the Rev. Dr. Falding, Rotherham; Mr. R. Leader, Mr. J. W. Wilson, &c.

The CHAIRMAN, after a few preliminary changes

The CHAIRMAN, after a few preliminary observa-tions, said he ventured to think that the movement which had resulted in the formation of that Union was a most hopeful indication of a healthy life in the Nonconformist churches of the town. There was, he trusted, little among them of the spirit which thought itself too enlightened to need further knowledge; but the unintelligent stupor which accepted everything as it is found, never asking "Why?" "How?" "Whence?" was one great reason why the younger members of Nonconformist families were so often lured away by the attractions of the Establishment—its fashion, its ritual, its social status. The humble chapel, he continued, becomes gloomy in their eyes; they begin to think extempore prayers long and tedious. And the time comes, too, when our young people perceive and feel very keenly the social ostracism that, despite all our boastings of civil and religious consists is still a rottent wearon in the head of equality, is still a potent weapon in the hands of the Establishment Between the Church-going cottager and his Dissenting neighbour there is a gulf fixed, on one side of which there are coals and blankets for the parents, buns and books for the child; on the other an icy nod or a despairing sigh. When we consider these subtle efforts to continue the practical stigma of Nonconformity, long after its legal disqualifications have been swept away; when to the negative difficulties of Dissens we add the actual temptations to desert it; can we wonder that those whose training has shown there to be no greater difference between a Churchman and a Dissenter than that on a Sunday the one goes to church with a Prayer-book and the other goes to chapel without one, are apt to prefer appearance, ease, and fashion to a maintenance of the grand principle for which their ancestors suf-fered and died? Having no deepness of earth, they are quickly scorched up; having no root, they speedily wither away. Now the object of the Young Nonconformists' Union is to give that root; so to ground our young men and maidens into the glorious history which is our heritage, in the unglorious history which is our heritage, in the unassailable principles that we profess, that when tribulation and persecution arise, either in the forms I have sketched, or in a hundred other different ways, so far from being "offended," they may not only withstand the blast but may bear much fruit. It will thus be seen that the Young Nonconformists' Union is educational, not aggressive; its work is that of defence, not of attack. Our union will en-

courage the members of our churches and of our congregations to read for themselves, to think out for themselves, how it comes to pass that we occupy our present position—and if any outsider likes to enter upon the inquiry with us—so much the better, for we are sure we can convince honest seekers after truth. Our revered friend, Dr. Falding, only the other day refuted for the thousandth time the calumny that we are Nonconformists because we love to differ. Since the days of the Lollards until now that slander has been uttered, Lollards until now that slander has been uttered, and it is wriggling yet, with irrepressible effrontery, though the heels of our leaders have trampled it under foot for hundreds of years. The snake is scotched, not killed. It is the Church of England that is the mother of Dissent, and Nonconformi'y, and schism. Our ancestors would have been her loyal sons, but she would none of them. She harried, and persecuted, and expelled her faithfullest ministers. All the loaves and fishes, temporal case and prosperity. and expelled her latitudiest ministers. All the loaves and fishes, temporal ease and prosperity were in the one scale; on the other there was weariness and painfulness, watchings often, hunger, thirst, fastings, cold, nakedness, stripes, imprisonment, and even death. The Young Nonconformists Union is proud, unutterably proud, and wants to make you proud, of the great legacy handed down to us from the men who suffered persecution for righteousness' sake, prouder of the sacred memories that circle around the humblest brick-built chapel than of the æsthetic glories of the long-drawn aisle than of the esthetic glories of the long-drawn ausic and fretted vault, whose silent story is one of long years of sacerdotal tyranny and neglected opportunity, of selfish exclusiveness and the zeal of bigots, of the sloth that is engendered of State support and patronage. That sloth, we rejoice to see, is shaken off; but we claim it as yet another of the triumphs of Nonconformity that the Church of England has been at length driven, by the very struggle for existence, to borrow Dissenters' methods, and to imitate the energetic plans she so long condemned and despised. Let us prove ourselves worthy of the noble heritage that is ours. The times are changed, and the men are changed, but the principles are the same. We invite the young Nonconformists of the town to join with us in impressing on ourselves and in extending to others the knowledge of these things; in searching into the bases of our belief; in striving to obtain some portion of the spirit of those devout and steadfast heroes who sacrificed self to country, who preferred a clear conscience and a good confession to place and power, to whom we owe our religious liberty and a large measure of our civil freedom. (Loud applause.)

Mr. ADAM WOOD proposed the first resolu-

This meeting, believing that there still exists an urgent need for the active maintenance of the principles of Protestant Nonconformity, rejoices in the formation of the Sheffield Young Nonconformists' Union, and wishes it hearty success.

The Rev. J. WENN seconded the resolution.
Mr. LEADER, and Mr. ALFRED ILLINGWORTH, of
Bradford, supported the resolution, which was
carried.

The Rev. Dr. FALDING, who was warmly applauded, moved—

That in order to uphold the principles of Free Churchism and keep the life and spirit of religious liberty, it is highly important that the young people in our various Dissenting bodies should possess full opportunities of acquainting themselves with the history and character of Nonconformity; and this meeting is glad to learn that the Union, whilst leaving political agitation to other societies, offers to its members the means by which they may be thoroughly rooted and grounded in the faith of their fathers.

I find (says Dr. Falding) that the resolution consists of two parts, both of which have a direct bearing on the objects of our present meeting. The first of these two parts asserts that it is highly important that the young people of the various Dissenting communities should have full opportunities of becoming acquainted with the history and character of Nonconformity; and the other part expresses pleasure that this union offers to its members the means whereby they may gain this acquaintance with the history and faith of our Nonconformist ancestors. These two parts fit well together. It must always be pleasant to find that our young people have the means of obtaining information on subjects of the deepest importance to themselves subjects of the deepest importance to themselves and to the community. If our older people, as well as young friends, had been acquainted with the true principles on which Nonconformity is based, and if they had had the courage and the magnanimity to act up to their convictions, there would not have been so many defections from our ranks by men who grew rich and influential under Nonconformist influences —(Hear, hear)—and then joined the ranks of richer and more influential conformists—welcome, indeed, as converts by the clergy, but not always respected or trusced by the laity of the Establishment. (Applause.) It were a small matter for one sect to lose members and another sect to gain them, if no other interests were involved than those of the relative number and strength of the sects. I venture to affirm that this meeting is far more concerned for the interests of truth than for the interests of party. (Hear, hear.) This meeting cares more for religion than it does for Dissent. The spirituality of the Church and its independence of all secular connection and control are the truths for which our free churches all contend. They are the basis on which we claim and exercise the rights of religious liberty. They are principles with which a State-Church is incompatible, and which must sooner or later make

State Churches impossible. (Applause.) Once for all let me say that I am not confounding together indiscriminately the Episcopal Church in England with the Established Church of England. I distinctly separate the churches of Christ of the Episcopal order in this country from the Erastian relation which such churches bear to Parliament and to the laws. I am not saying that there is not spirituality in the Church, nor that there is not freedom. There are both, but they exist not because of its connection with the State, but in spite of it, and in conflict with it. (Applause.) And I heritate not to affirm that the more that And I hesitate not to affirm that the more that spiritual life, the more that religious zeal and fervour, spring up and prevail in the Episcopal Church, the more its members exercise their rights and duties as religious men responsible to God and to conscience, the sooner will they begin to feel that the ecclesiastical system under which they live is either irksome or useless, is either an intolerable burden, to which they will no longer submit, or is an antiquated and cumbersome machine, with which an autiquated and cumpersome machine, with which they can well afford to dispense. (Applause.) It seems to me that the party in the Church which is distinguished above others for zeal and growth—whatever we may think of its Romanising doctrine and its retrograde ritual; the party which certainly has the Prayer-book and medieval practice on its side—it seems to me that the leaders of that party side—it seems to me that the leaders of that party aide—it seems to me that the leaders of that party have already stretched the cord to its strain, and they feel it cutting into their limbs. And that another party, which claims evangelical faith and Protestant practice, will not be long before its turn comes to find that State prestige means also State repression and State constraint. I hope that the means of instruction which this Union provides for its members will not be confined to the history of its members will not be confined to the history of religious opinion and parties in England alone, nor only in England for the last two centuries. Dissent an implies establishment to differ from; but what prompted Nonconformlty, and what caused Dissent? What were the principles of antagonism with the Act of Uniformity, and with Parliamentary and royal authority over the Church? They were not new things, though they took new forms and new names. They were the old principles of spiritual life and religious liberty. The principles which are essential to the Free Churches of England to-day, those principles which we should avow as which are essential to the Free Churches of England to-day, those principles which we should avow as vital and necessary are ancient and Catholic principles—and if we would understand them aright we must study them in the light of the Holy Scriptures themselves, and according to the teaching and practice of the ancient Church. (Applause.) What we need to-day is not information alone, we need deep, honest conviction. We want earnestness. We want the power of stern self-denial for the sake of truth and duty. Let our young friends be furnished with all the aids they need, not only to instruct their minds in doctrine and principles, but to stir their hearts with genuine enthusiasm, in defence of what is true, and pure, and noble. The earnest Christian is the truest patriot, and the Nonconformist churches have been, and still will be, the bulmist churches have been, and still will be, the bul-warks of our Protestant faith and of our political liberty and national greatness. (Applause.) Spiri-tual religion will preserve itself and the country in which it prevails. Therefore, let us above all be Christians, and let us maintain our Christian liberty and the freedom and pureness of our church life; and then, sir, as religion spreads and prevails—sooner or later—with or without political agitation—with or without external aggression on the Establishment—an order of things will arise in the Providence of God which will remove every shackle from the Church of Christ and every impediment in the way of its progress, when Dissent and Nonconformity shall be forgotten in the common enjoyment of equal religious liberty, for then all the churches shall be united and free.

(Loud applause.)
Mr. Percy Rawson seconded the motion, which
was supported by Mr. Henry Lee, of Manchester,
and carried.

DIOCESAN CONFERENCES.

York Diocesan Conference was held Wednesday, the Archbishop presiding. About 400 were present. The Chairman, in the course of his opening address, alluded to the question of awakening spiritual life, and said that the Church would not be judged by the compactness of her arrangements, or the liberality of her children, but by the number of mames which were enrolled under her banner as having devoted themselves to the service of the Lord. The burials question was introduced by the Rev. Canon Trevor, who moved-

That no alteration should be admitted in the law relating to the religious offices that might impair the principles of the Established Church, or affect the use of the Church Service at the burial of such as desire and are entitled to it; and that while willing to accord full religious liberty in other cases, the Conference desires that the law should continue to secure Chris-tian burial for all who are interred in the parish

That question had been said to have passed out of the region of reason into the region of sentiment, and he had hoped that in that Conference something might be done to renew the reign of reason. He had been counting up the principles which were sub-mitted to Parliament by Mr. Osborne Morgan's bill, and they all appeared to him to be violations of the rights and liberities of Churchmen. By letting the Dissenters into the churchyard they gave up their principles. He did not wish to treat the Dissenters harshly or with severity, but they

must maintain the principles of the National Church and of Christianity. (Cheers.) The Rev. Mr. Church, of Hickleton, said that their Dissenting friends had absolutely no grievance whatever. The whole question was one of disestablishment and disendowment. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Arthur Duncombe said they had no right to make any compromise on behalf of the Church. The Rev. Dr. Blakeney (Bridlington) urged that the subject should be approached with moderation, and expressed his opinion that the Dissenters believed they had a grievance. He suggested that services might be read in the church or the chapel before proceeding to the grave, and thus the grievance of might be read in the church or the chapel before proceeding to the grave, and thus the grievance of the Dissenters would be met, and both parties would be placed upon an equality. (Cheers.) Major Worsley expressed an opinion that the difficulty would be remedied by the closing of churchyards, and moved an amendment to the effect that facilities ought to be given for the establishment of facilities ought to be given for the establishment of cemeteries, and for the closing of the present burial grounds on sanitary grounds. Mr. F. J. S. Foljambe, M.P., must differ with those who had Foljambe, M.P., must differ with those who had gone before him as to the interests of Nonconformists in the National Church, and he could not see the hardship to clergymen of having a Dissenting service, or any passages of the Bible, which would be guaranteed by legislation, said over the remains of any person. He also thought that they ought to be very careful how they said that the Dissenters were actuated by political principles in agitating their grievance. They ought to be very careful how they wounded the feelings and susceptibilities of their Dissenting brethren, and should try to meet them in every possible way. (Cheers.) In the interests of the Church he begged to disclaim any part in the cry of "No compromise and no surrender," which was very often the last cry of a despairwhich was very often the last cry of a despair-ing cause. He had very often thought of the scheme which had been proposed by Dr. Blakeney, and he did not see why it could not be adopted. (Cheers.) Sir Edmund Beckett said that with the Dissenters the question was more one of pocket than of principle. The Rev. W. A. Shadwell, Langton, thought that the Dissenters had already langton, thought that the Dissenters had already got as much liberty as was good for them, and what they wanted was a liberty that would amount to a licence. (Cheers.) Mr. A. Thomas, Sheffield, said it was practicable for Dissenting burial services to be read in churchyards, and in two-thirds of the parishes of the country the difficulty had been removed by the provision of cemeteries. The Hon. C. L. Wood scouted all ideas of a compromise, and proved that if there was to be a conflict they should C. L. Wood scouted all ideas of a compromise, and urged that if there was to be a conflict they should fight for the honour of their Church. (Cheers.) Mr. B. Fletcher (Sheffield) was very sorry to have seen the flag of defiance hurled at the Dissenters with such animosity as it had been—("No, no," and cheers)—and he had very great pleasure in assuring Dr. Blakeney that he thoroughly sympathised with the view he (the Doctor) took. The working classes—of which, perhaps, he was the only representative at that conference—(cheers)—did not look upon the question as the conference did, and he thought some remarks had been made which, however clever and witty they might be, which, however clever and witty they might be, would have a very bad effect outside. (Cheers.) He had frequently attended Nonconformist funerals, and he never heard anything to shock him in any way. (Loud cheers.) The Rev. R. Brown-Bosthwick (Scarborough) agreed with the last speaker, and thought the Dissenters had a real substantial grievance. (Cries of "No, no.") Archdeacon Blunt expressed a similar opinion, and spoke in favour of generous concessions being made. Mr. A. Brooksbank (Sheffield) also expressed similar opinions, and said that the working classes really believed that the churchyards were the property of the people and not of the clergy. ("No, no," and laughter.) The Dean of York expressed his concurrence with the amendment of Major Worsley, and said that if they held their own they might defy every Nonconformist in the country, and still retain their Establishment. Sir Harcourt Johnstone feared that the spirit would have a very bad effect outside. (Cheers. Sir Harcourt Johnstone feared that the spirit which prompted such cries as "No surrender" would hasten disestablishment, and said even if they did not have that result, they were unseemly in a Christian assembly. (Cheers.) He believed that the Burials Bill would be a good measure. The Archbishop of York pointed out that hardly any suggestions for a solution of the difficulty had been made, and regretted that the word senti-mental had been introduced. They were bound to give the Dissenters credit for honesty when they said they had a grievance, and there was no necessity for any hard words to be used. He believed some of the expressions were harder than was meant, and that no real hostility was felt. He suggested that in Major Worsley's resolution it would be as well to omit the words on sanitary grounds, inasmuch that was not the real object. The Rev. Canon Trevor then replied, and the voting was then taken, Major Worsley's amendment being carried by 123 votes to 27.

At the annual Conference of clerical and lay representatives of the various rural deaneries in the diocese of Exeter, at Exeter on Thursday, over which the Bishop of Exeter presided, Lord Devon, referring to the Cornish bishopric, said, in addition to Lady Rolle's gift of 40,000... contributions had been promised amounting to 28,918l., including 2,000l. from the Central Committee in London. There was sufficient in hand, when invested in Four per Cent. Stock, to produce the 500l. a year wanted to make up the 2,500l. required by the Act of Parliament, and the balance would be more than sufficient to bring in the additional 500% a year, the raising

of which within five years has to be guaranteed before the bishopric will be created. Certain gentlemen, his lordship said, were prepared with the guarantee, and he did not think there would be any further difficulty. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners would meet on the 31st inst., and if their investigations terminated satisfactorily, as he confidently believed they would, the bishopric of Truro would soon be in existence. A most cordial yote of thanks was passed to Lady Rolle for her vote of thanks was parsed to Lady Rolle for her munificent gift. The bishop was also thanked for the 800l. a year he gives out of his income. The burials question was subsequently discussed, and Prebendary Karslake moved—

That this Conference of the discess of Exeter, recognising it as a duty of the State to make provision for the burial of all persons dying within its precincts, believes this obligation can best be discharged by extending the system of public cometeries throughout the country, so that the body of each on death may be securely laid to rest without other restrictions than those required for the preservation of decemey and the public peace.

those required for the preservation of decency and the public peace.

Lord Coleridge took the principal part in the discussion. He dissented from the resolution. Having pointed out the right of the parishioner to be buried in the parish churchyard, he said in reason and in morals complete toleration of the living Dissenter involved complete toleration of the dead Dissenter and toleration of the dead Dissenter appeared to him to involve that he should be accompanied in interment—to which he had still the common-law right—by those ceremonies of religion to which he had been accustomed in life. He quite admitted that it was fair and just to say that the question was intimately linked with others more important and graver than the question itself. But it was, in his judgment, because it was so linked that the question pressed for a solution, and that solution had far better not be delayed. In dealing with the question, he asked Churchmen to put themselves in the position of Dissenters—to do, in fact, by others as they would be done by. Amendments and riders to the original resolutions were proposed, but ultimately the original resolution was carried by a large majority.

The annual Chester Diocesan Conference was opened on Thursday, under the presidency of the Bishop, who in the course of his address referred to the proposed new bishopric of Liverpool, and said he was prepared to assent to the detachment of a portion of the See of Chester on condition that no portion of the ecclesiastical revenues of the Isle of Man should be appropriated for the endowment of the new bishopric. A number of papers were read and discussed.

THE BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER ON UNBELIEF.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol commenced his visitation of the Archdeaconry of Gloucester on Tuesday in the Cathedral. After giving a number of diocesan statistics and speaking highly of the value of daily services and weekly celebrations, his lordship spoke on the prevalence of unbelief, which he was rather ridiculed for calling attention to in his primary charge twelve years ago, but which was now widespread, and at the same time had some-what altered its methods:—

what altered its methods:—

Unbelief is assuming a much more earnest tone. It professes to take into consideration the gravest questions, to test the evidence on which our belief claims to rest, to suggest answers to all deeper questions that lie within the realm of the knowable, and where they lie beyond it to make it clear that, with our present state of knowledge, no trustworthy knawers can be given. And all this is, so to say, becoming public property. A few years ago the results, or supposed results, of modern science were not popularly known beyond the general circle of scientific men. The theory of evolution, for example, appeared to be simply a scientific theory, more or less probable, which professed to account for the aggregation or disposition of matter in the visible universe, but which in no way involved, as it is now declared to involve, the whole question of creation and even or a personal God. The now celebrated law of natural selection appeared at first little more than an intelligent illustration of theories of development that had found acceptance in years gone by, and had perished from want of a sufficiently wide or accurate induction to keep them scientifically alive. What I feel very distinctly is—first, that infidelity of a very serious kind—infidelity that claims to rest, not on metaphysical speculation or historical criticism, but on facts and on distinctly is first, that infidelity of a very serious kind—infidelity that claims to rest, not on metaphysical speculation or historical criticism, but on facts and on science—is becoming popularly known, and even popularly accepted; secondly, that all the evil results which attend on this sort of playing with fire are gradually disclosing themselves among the young and inexperienced. There is a sort of dim feeling in many a young heart that old opinions are untenable, or, if to any extent tenable, that they will have to be totally reconstructed—that the attack is overwhelmingly strong, and the defence very orthodox, but very weak—and that and the defence very orthodox, but very weak—and that it is quite an excusable if not a commendable attitude to rely upon what seems, yet only seems, to be sure and agreed upon, to east out the four anchors of the soul—its hope, its faith, its reverence, and its love—on the old sandbank of simple morality, and so to wait for or wish for the day.

The Bishop then counselled the Church in this state of affairs to turn its attention to the exact state of the defence, and, where necessary to supplement and strengthen it. The Bishop's concluding remarks were as follows:—

The days in which we live are dark and anxious. Deeper learning, is, I fear, declining; patient criticism is rare; merely emotional belief is not uncommon; but real and instructed belief, that belief that can give the reason for the hope that is in it, and can exhibit clearly the basis of its own convictions, is less and less showing itself among generally professing Christians. Even we, the clergy, we whose duty is to guide and direct others

amid the mass of modern speculation, we, I fear, are often found unequal to the duty that is now forced upon us. Everything now seems to be pressed into the service of external work. We may thank God that there is this amount of work, but work is superseding thought; a restless activity is now taking the place of much of that calm and sequestered study that once so honourably marked the order to which we belong. Much is there that is at present disquicting. Yet we know in our hearts the lips will speak, and if they speak because His love prompts the words, let us be of good cheer, for such words will never be spoken in vain.

Continuing his visitation on Wednesday at Cheltenham, Bishop Ellicott dealt with the causer of unbelief, observing that three claimed especial consideration, viz., the tone and direction of recent historical criticism; the deductions which had been drawn from the real or alleged discoveries of modern science; and the moral and metaphysical difficulties that had been supposed to be involved in or connected with the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. The historical criticism distinctly increased the number of sober and religious persons who felt real difficulties in reference to many things in the Old Testament.

The subject of the Bishop's address at Stroud on Thursday was the general nature and characteristics of three forms of infidelity which were now most current—namely, Theism; Pantheism, that is a perversion of the essential idea of all true Theism—namely, the personality of God; and a third system acknowledged neither a personal God nor an impersonal First Cause. He warned his hearers against considering Christianity as the mere development of Judaism; or deeming it the last and presumably the best of a series of evolutions of religious thought, but liable to be superseded by some development of the future. He protested against the wild anti-Christian dreams of those who put forward the theory of religious evolution with much skill and persuasiveness. They must hold with ever-increasing tenacity that there was none other name by which man could be saved than that of Jesus Christ. He did not fear much advance on the side of pure materialism. Our real dangers arcse from those systems which admitted in some form or other a First Cause. He said emphatically that the idealism with which modern scepticism was deluding the souls of thousands was worse than the old heathenism.

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On Friday the bishop continued his charge at Dursley, and considered the arguments which may be best urged against the prevailing forms of unbelief. After some preliminary observations, his landable said:

No argument is probably more likely to carry real infusence with it than this—that the truest science is now unmistakably declaring for the truth of theism, and for the belief in a Creator and moral Governor. There seems good reason for boping and believing that, ere long, this, by the blessing of God, will be made strikingly patent. We seem on the eve of great discoveries, especially in reference to molecular physics, and those ultimate atoms which the Creator vouchasfed to call into being, and with which it would seem He voucheafed to build up the fabric of this earth and of the rolling worlds around it. We seem also to have arrived at a turning-point in science. Theories in many important subjects, such, for example, as the supposed soution of meteors in reference to solar heat, or the supposed constitution of the earth, a thin solid crust round a fluid nucleus of molten matter, have been candidly given up; opinions, for they can scarcely be spoken of as more than opinions, in regard to the overwhelming and almost oppressive magnitude of the realm of the invisible, have undergone considerable modifications. For example, the varying brightness of the stars is no longer rigarded as simply dependent on distance, varying size being now admitted to be an element that ought also to be taken into our estimates, Again, the ages of the world's duration, and the distance of time at which its mass became consolidated, once deemed to be vast beyond all conception, are now reduced to presumable limits that are perfectly thinkable. Many other instances of silent or avowed modifications might also be mentioned, all tending to show that science is rapidly getting rid of its crudities—that it has sown, so to speak, its wild oats of speculation, and is now fast approaching a state in which, by the overruling wisdom of the All-wise Creator, it will be found, more than ever before, to sustain all the fundamental teaching of revelation, in reference to our race, and the beginning and end of that earth which is our present home a

questionably specific statements as to the closing scenes of this world's history. No thoughtful observer of nature can forget how, one May evening some ten years ago, the spectroscope explained what the telescope was then manifesting to startled observers—and what in the sequel cool men of science did not hesitate to speak of as—a burning world.

The bishop proceeded to contend that the various forms of unbelief, whether taken separately or in combination, utterly failed to explain in a manner satisfactory to the reason the origin or history of the phenomenal world around us. Having observed that everyone of the forms of unbelief was either a reproduction of a form put forth long ago in the earliest days of philosophy, or else a modification or rehabilitation of it, his lordship proceeded to urge that they were, and were felt to be, so ultimately incompatible with each other that scarcely any modern thinker cares to maintain any one of them in its separate individuality and dis-

one of them in its separate individuality and distinctiveness:—

An ultimate break down in logic or mataphysics is apprehended, and the cautious modern thinker avoids the risk of placing all his opinions on one bottom. Hence, we have two modes of procedure, both of which are far from unpopular at the present time. Either some one leading form of unbelief is generally adhered to, but supplemented, where it is felt to be weak or insufficient, by elements derived from some other form—or a sort of general attitude of unbelief is assumed, and the principle maintained, so far as it can be called a principle, of accepting nothing that cannot be proved by observation or general experience, and of denying everything that has the faintest tinge of an a priori aspect. In other and more homely words, either, when a rent is made, a parch from some other garment is put on a flowing garb of unbelief, or the garb itself is discarded, and there is a relapse to primitive nakedness. Of the first course of procedure we could scarcely take a better example than is supplied to us by Mr. Mill, in his posthumous essays on religion. The general biasal of the writer is obviously to the general conception of matter and force being eternal. But as his luoid mind saw clearly enough that this conception could not be driven through all the results of observation, without being brought into collision with some phenomena of the moral realm, and many of the clearest suggestive counter-teachings of experience, he did not hesitate to avail himself of the supplementary aid of other systems. The second mode of procedure is, however, the more common, and, though I care not to use hard words, the more cowardly. It is to retire within the fortress of what is called Agnosticism; and to know nothing, believe nothing, and away nothing, except what can be concluded and proved by experiment. This is the popular system of the present day, and by the nature of the case the most difficult to deal with in the way of direct counter argument. At any rate it conc

the unconscious manifestation of what the Scripture solemnly speaks of as the evil heart of unbelief, that heart of unbelief that, rooner than give up its unbelief, will give up al! its higher instincts and attributes, stiffe its intuitions, turn away from all its implanted aspirations, and wallow, almost complacently, in the mire of its own self-chosen materialism.

Finally, Bishop Ellicott argued that all these systems not only utterly failed to supply any answer to the graver moral difficulties which every day's experience brought before us, but also tended to weaken or suppress our higher moral aspirations:—

A very few considerations will lead us to recognise the truth of both these implied statements. Can it, for instance, be maintained for a moment that any one of these systems has thrown a single ray of light on the dark moral mysteries, the apparently fruitless suffering, the sudden calamities, the seeming waste of moral energy—in a word, all those sad phenomena that belong to what Scripture calls "the subjection to vanity," and ever seem above measure baffling and mysterious. What has the best of these systems—the system that admits the possibility of the existence of a God, though unknown and unknowable—to tell us in regard of this class of deeper questions? Why, simply nothing. All that an intelligent writer of this school of thought has to tell us is simply that at present the distribution of moral forces is "hopelessly chaotic." But does such a statement add anything to our existing knowledge, or throw one single ray of light on the ever-recurring gloomy question. If so, then how came it to be so? How comes it that this unknown and unknowable stands in any degree of relation whatever to the

admitted existence of such a strange and bewildering chaos. Or if this unknown stands presumably in no relation whatever, does not the very assumption of such an absence of all relation, such a more than epicurean indifference to all mortal strugglings and sorrows, cast the blackness of darkness over what is night already. O my friends, it sounds verily a keenly-refined mockery when the exponents of some of these systems tell us of the gradual evanescence of evil—the evanescence of evil! when the smoke of smouldering villages, the death-cries of tortured children, and the shrieks of ravished women are yet fearfully present in the eyes and ears of civilised Europe. To us Christians these things are not without their mysterious difficulties, though we know the terrible source from which they emanate. To us these things often seem dark and inexplicable, but we know in whom we have trusted. To us this terrible presence of evil is often a soul-trying mystery, but to those who hope in an evanescence of evil owing to the accumulating agencies of a steadily ameliorated humanity, such phenomena would seem only a mockery and bitter call—to curse their unknown God and die. The argument, from moral considerations, of which these few words are only a fleeting illustration, is the gravest and most effective of all, as against the various systems of unbelief, and especially their latest manifestations. While Christianity points through the gloom to the stars of blossed hope that are shining above us, these hapless systems, fairly reasoned out, lead only to nihilism and despair.

It is rumoured that several United Presbyterian churches in Edinburgh are threatened with secessions on account of the use of fermented wine at the Communion.

The Pall Mail Gazette understands that several schemes for the subdivision of dioceses are in more or less rapid progress, and that a general bill on the subject will be introduced next session.

Nonconformists Evicted From their Chapel. In Cardiganshire.—An impressive, though in some respects very remarkable, service was held on Sunday in the area outside Llynrhydowen Chapel. On the Saturday, the Rev. Wm. Ihomas, M.A., of the Grammar School, Llandyssil, who has been minister of the chapel for the last 20 years, was served with a notice from Mr. Allen, agent of Mr. Lloyd, the heir to the Alltyrodin estate, that he was not to enter either the chapel or the burial-ground in future. It should be explained that the chapel is built on the Alltyrodin estate, and is held under a lease of ninety-nine years, three of which are unexpired. The notice required immediate possession, first, on the ground that new trustees had not been appointed to succeed those who were appointed in 1871; and, second, that if trustees had been appointed, there was a breach of covenant, as the chapel had been used for purposes other than the worship of God. No explanation is given of this latter allegation. In consequence of the receipt of this notice, the congregation could not assemble in the chapel as usual on Sunday afternoon; they therefore collected in the open space around the building, accompanied by a large concourse of friends and neighbours, attracted to the spot by the extraordinary circumstances of the case. It was estimated that not less than 2,000 persons were present. The service was proceeded with in the open air, the scene at times being utterly indescribable. The minister was so affected that he could with difficulty discharge his duties, and grown men and women, members of his congregation, cried, sobbed, and exhibited signs of the utmost distress. What course will be taken has not been stated. In the meantime, we are assured that in the religious history of Cardiganshire, rich as it is in remarkable and toul-stirring incident, there are few things which would surpass in melancholy interest the spectacle which was witnessed last Sunday.—South Wales Daily News.

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MR. Spurgeon on "Bishors."—Mr. Spurgeon delivered an address at the Metropolitan Tabernacle on Monday week in connection with a united prayer-meeting held by the various schools connected with the Tabernacle. The South London Passes they reports his remarks in South London Press thus reports his remarks:—
"I notice that the Bishop of Winchester has said that the south of London is the most spiritually-destitute portion of Great Britain. not this a very grievous thing, and how is it proposed to remedy it? Why, there is going to be a new Bishop of St. Albars. After the see of St. Albans is properly endowed, and the abbey has had its stained glass windows put in, the spiritual destitution of South London is to be immediately relieved. I am afraid you do not know your mercie nor your miseries. I do not think you are aware of the destitution. There are plenty of services, plenty of places of worship like the l'abernacle, but they only send forth darkness, and not any episcopal gift. It is true it is the Gospel we preach, and we have the power and spirit amongst us, but then we are not in the apostolical succession, and lawn sleeves never touched our ears when hands were laid upon our heads. But when the Bishop of St. Albans is created, and the see properly endowed, then the destitution of South London is over. Sunday-school teachers—poor deluded mortals! never can convey any grace to the people; a Baptist minister is no better than a heretic, and the wonder s you can go on teaching children as you do. My faith is very weak in bishops, and needs to be strength-ened. I do not believe there is one poor little child that will be benefited one atom by his lordship. I believe that a dozen Sunday-school teachers would do more to relieve the spiritual destitution of this dark and benighted region than if we had six bishops and an archbishop as well. There are different remedies for different diseases; and as I believe this kind of destitution is imaginary, perhaps an imaginary remedy is about the thing needed. Still, there is a real spiritual destitution that we have got to meet with a real remedy. The sham destitution consists in so many persons being Dissenters. The real destitution can only be met by the Gospel of Jesus Christ in your classes and everywhere else. Mr. Spurgeon then thanked those members of his congregation who had stayed away the previous evening in order that their places might be filled by strangers. He could not but think great good would result; and concluded by referring to an interesting instance of conversion."

by referring to an interesting instance of conversion."

The Manufacture of Miracles.—You may remember (writes the Paris correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette) that at the first announcement of the apparition of the Virgin at La Salette, the Bishop of Grenoble and the Archbishop of Lyons condemned the miracle. The faithful and the lower condemned the miracle. The faithful and the lower orders of the clergy insisted, however, the miracle was confirmed by the Vatican, and accepted by the bishop and the archbishop. A new apparition is now reported to have occurred in Savoy, and in this instance two of the local clergy have been forced to accept the decisions of the Vatican, much to their discomfiture. The person who saw the Virgin in this case was Théotiste Covarel, a girl ten years of age, of exemplary piety, but totally uneducated. The Virgin appeared to her several times, not to denounce modern progress, but to complain of the conduct of the clergy of the diocese and to order prayers for their conversion, for many of them said mass while in a state of mortal sin. The most terrible judgment was announced in the event of this state of things continuing. The Bishop of Maurienne, on the report of two canons, together with a few priests, accepted the miracle, which created a terrible stir among the clergy in general. When the matter had been warmly disputed it was referred to the Vatican, and shortly afterwards the Prefect of the department had Théotiste Covarel confined in a lunatic asylum on the declaration of two doctors—Fusier and Mottard. But Doctor Mottard protested he had never made any declara-tion, and the Canons Albriex and Bonetti denounced tion, and the Canons Albriex and Bonetti denounced Doctor Fusier; for so doing they have been found guilty of defamation and fined 1,000%. Not only this, but the unfortunate canons have been obliged to sign a most humiliating denial of the authenticity of the miracle, and to declare that "the pretended apparitions and revelations of which Théotiste Covarel boasted were destitute of all foundation in truth," and that no one can believe in them. They declare that the pious practices and veneration founded on these apparitions are scandalous, and so forth. As for the Bishop of Maurienne, Monsignor Vibert, he appears to have been quietly superseded by Monsignor Bosset, Bishop is partibus of Parium. Perhaps when the news of partibus of Parium. Perhaps when the news of this grave affair gets abroad it will put a stop to these numerous apparitions, which are often got up merely as a speculation to benefit the country in which the scene is laid. As for the prelates, it is evidently more safe for them to oppose a miracle than to accept one without due authorisation from headquarters.

Beligious and Denominational Rews.

HARE COURT CHAPEL, CANONBURY.

Last evening the Rev. W. M. Statham, late of Hull, was publicly recognised as minister of this chapel, in succession to the Rev. Dr. Raleigh. There was a good attendance the body of the chapel being quite full and the galleries nearly so. The Rev. Dr. Raleigh presided, supported by the new pastor and Revs. Dr. Allon, J. G. Rogers, E. Paxton Hood, A. Hannay, J. Robinson, W. Braden, Mr. James Spicer, Dr. Mullens, Mr. James Townley, and other gentlemen. A hymn having been sung, the sixtygentlemen. A hymn having been sung, the sixty-seventh Psalm was read and prayer offered by the Rev. J. Robinson, after which the Rev. Dr. Raleigh ascended the pulpit, not, as he said, to deliver a formal written address, but that he might be better heard by all present. He thought if they went beyond family and home ties there was no relationship existing among men so full of deep, varied, and tender interest as the relationship which they had met there that night to sanction and recognise by their presence. It marked something towards a justification of the simplicity and scripturalness of their method that, assembled as they were, they found some of those Scriptural directions and injunctions given by inspired apostles rising to their memory, and as suitable to them as to those to whom they were originally addressed. Timothy, and Titus, and Epaphras never died, but had continual successors in those who had the grandest ecclesiastical orders—the spiritual qualities which they possessed. Those were the greatest, and simplest, and most easily transmitted, and there could be less mistake about them, because they were connected with the personal piety of the minister. The verificapersonal piety of the minister. The verifica-tion of such orders was found in the faithful-ness of him who undertook work for the Lord. Who was the good shepherd but he who had the profoundest sympathy with the Great Shepherd and Bishop of souls in regard to his scattered flock, and sought to bring them home and feed them by the still waters of grace and truth. He could think of nothing nobler than the building up of men in the holy faith of the Gospel, who, working in the element of truth and love, sought to form in them characters which should be counterparts of the image of the heavenly—the glorious image of Christ whom they preached. That was a grand profession. He had been a preacher of the Gospel

for more than thirty years, and his judgment was stronger far than when he began, that that work was unparalleled in importance. If it was taken up sincerely, and strenuously pursued, it was a difficult work, but an honourable and most delightful one. No doubt it deprived those who undertook it of some outward worldly advantage, but the world knew nothing of the sweet consolations such men had in their own minds. No doubt the minister was often exposed to great pain in witnessing the pain of others, but only those who were engaged in the work knew the fountain of fulness they could go to for their own needs. If a minister of the Gospel could be supposed to survey the whole of human life, and look at all its best the whole of human life, and look at all its best positions and places, he would express himself as the Shunammite woman did when ahe replied, "I dwell amongst my own people." His dear friend Mr. Statham had come to dwell among a people worthy of his love. He knew them better than they knew themselves, and if Mr. Statham's experience was anything like his, he could tell him they would work him well and never spare him well and never spare they would work him well and never spare him, pay him well and never grudge it, love him well and never draw back their love. If he were to give way to the kind of emotion which was striving to be uppermost, he could dwell upon that subject long. As he thought of the history of Hare-court Chapel he looked back upon a long line of quiet blessed Sabbath days, the shade of earnestness and the glow of interest on a thousand faces, bands of youthful pilgrims back upon a long line of quiet blessed Sabbath days, the shade of earnestness and the glow of interest on a thousand faces, bands of youthful pilgrims standing up to make profession of their faith, and the blessed church meetings when as many as forty or fifty together sometimes confessed the Christian faith and were received into fellowship, the brotherly love and charity, and Christ like sympathy which had often been shown to the downfallen and weak, and in seeking to bring them safe into the fold. Nor could he forget the solemn death beds, where those who had been nourished there took their flight. They seemed to be surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses calling to them to gird up the loins of their minds. He had just said what had been in his heart, and he would only thank them very cordially for the privilege of occupying that position. It was usually considered a canon that the old pastor should keep away on such occasions; but he did rejoice in their joy, and there was a sense of abounding thankfulness in his heart when he got a note from Mr. Statham saying that he had accepted their invitation. No one there was more sure than he was that the honourable history of that church in the past would in all probability be the history of Hare-court Church in days to come. He commended the pastor to the people and the people to Hare-court Church in days to come. He commended the pastor to the people and the people to the pastor, and both to the grace of God, which was able to build them up and give them an inheritance amongst them that are sanctified. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. G. Rogers said it was about a year ago that he went down to Hull to preach an anniversary sermon for Mr. Statham, and he little thought then that twelve months after he should have to congratulate any other church at having secured the services of such a laborious and sucsecured the services of such a laborious and successful pastor. He most heartily congratulated them, and as both pastor and church had had a bright career in the past, he hoped they would have an equally bright career in the future. He knew Mr. Statham would seek to maintain and extend the reputation of Hare-court Chapel. No one could see a vacancy in such a church as that without anxiety, and it was necessary that they should have men who could command respect, and were thoroughly consecrated to that work. They all rejoiced with that congregation and with Mr. Statham at the prospect before them. There was no brotherhood more true and hearty than the brotherhood of Congregational ministers in that city, and he would find himself in the midst of friends who were able to regard whatever power a minister possessed without envy, and to sympa-thise with him in all his difficulties. No argument in favour of Congregationalism was stronger than that gathering. When a church was able to pass that gathering. When a church was able to pass through a time of trial such as they had passed through without difference, and to commence a new period of activity by the choice of another pastor, it was a strong proof of the soundness of their principles, and it was a grand thing for a Christian people, possessing full liberty of choice to unite, to call upon one man to be their pastor. It was a grave question how they could preserve their liberty, and some outward characteristic of their teaching. Everything they did should spring from love to Christ, and a desire to extend His kingdom, and they must try to adapt themselves to meet the wants of all classes and to show that their liberty was associated with breadth.

Mr. F. FITCH (treasurer), then made a short statement respecting the past history of the church, &c., their invitation first to the Rev. E. Herber Evans, of Carnarvon, who was unable to accept it, and then to Mr. Statham.

The Rev. W. M. STATHAM, who was very cordially received, said they had already had a very happy recognition meeting, but they had now met in a more public manner. He was sorry that Mr. Simon was unable to be present, but he had sent him a letter of congratulation. It had been a very anxious time to him since he had received their invitation, but he felt that it was a call from God which he could not retuse. He felt that he was surrounded by those who felt it to be their duty not only to get but to give, and he hoped they would not find him wanting in sympathy and aid. He held firmly to the doctrines

of Christ and to his determination to know nothing amongst men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, for he knew of no other way of salvation for men. He believed that modern research was in accordance with the will of God, but the Gospel despite all criticisms upon it was the strongest force in that nineteenth century of time. He was glad to see Mr. Johnson, of Hull, present, and was sorry that Mr. Irving was not also present. He prayed God to send them a faithful pastor. He thanked Dr. Allon for his kind welcome back to London. He needed not only a welcome but the prayers of his people, for the work there required the full tension of a minister, and he had dropped everything else in order to devote himself to that ministry, and he relied upon the Saviour and His gracious promises to be with devote himself to that ministry, and he relied upon the Saviour and His gracious promises to be with His ministers unto the end. He sincerely thanked them for the kind welcome they had given himself and wife. To live and labour there they must live in their hearts. Churches were not made for ministers but ministers for churches, and he would ever regard the bond that united them as a loving one. Looking them full in the face he would say, May the dew and blessing of the Holy Ghoet be upon us, and if spared, God grant that we may abide in loving confidence, and loving hearts, and holy fellowship, and the more you and I know of one another the more may we respect and love one another, and when our work is done may we clasp hands in joy and praise where we shall no more go

one another the more may we respect and love one another, and when our work is done may we clasp hands in joy and praise where we shall no more go out. (Cheers.)

Mr. Jas. Spicke said he was very much delighted to be there. He regarded their position there as an answer to prayers offered in the old Hare-court Chapel by Mr. Hannay's predecessor and himself, who were both very anxious that it should be removed to a more suitable site than it originally occupied. He recounted the steps which they took for its removal, and the securing of that site. He heartily concurred in the call of Mr. Statham, and prayed for God's blessing upon their fut ure.

Mr. Johnson (Hull) said he had mixed feelings of joy and sorrow, but he believed that Mr. Statham had done right in accepting that call, for the work he did in Hull made him worthy of a larger sphere. When he came to Hull they only had forty members and a large debt which they were afraid to add up. Mr. Statham had the courage to accept their call, and soon afterwards the church increased eightfold, the debt was reduced from 6.000l. to 2,400l., and last year they raised over 2,000l. for various objects. They had now two Sunday-schools with 700 children. Mr. Statham was chosen to represent them on the school board, and placed at the head of the poll, and he enjoyed the respect of the whole town. He congratulated them upon having secured such a pastor, and Mr. Statham that he had such a church.

The Rev. Dr. Allon said they were heartily slad church

The Rev. Dr. ALLON said they were heartily gla The Rev. Dr. Allon said they were heartily glad that that church had got a pastor. They had looked with a great deal of anxiety at the course of events during the last twelve months. They were entitled to some credit for the paternal interest they took in that church. They sincerely and heartily welcomed Mr. Statham there. He knew something of his work in Hull, and had rejoiced in his success there. He wished in the name of the Congregational ministers of the district to give him a most hearty welcome. him a most hearty welcome.

The Revs. PAXTON HOOD, A. HANNAY, Mr. James Townley, and Dr. Mullens also expressed their congratulations, and the meeting was brought to a close by the singing of a hymn, and the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Raleigh.

The Rev. Dr. Pulsford, of Trinity Congregational Church, Glasgow, has declined an invitation to become pastor of Stamford hill Congregational Church, London.

Mr. G. Moore has, says the City Press, given 6,000L to the funds of the London Clerical Education Aid Society, which has for its object the training of young men of ability for the ministry, Preference is to be given to applicants from Cumberland and Westmoreland.

MR. O'KEEFFE AND CARDINAL CULLEN.-It is to take legal proceedings against Cardinal Cullen for the recovery of the value of the living of which he declares he has been unjustly deprived.

BRADFORD.—On Saturday afternoon the Mayoress of Bradford (Mrs. Wilson Sutcliffe) laid the foundation stone of the new schools to be attached to College Chapel, Barkerend road, the estimated cost of which, including the site, is 5,600%

LEEDS —On Saturday afternoon Mr. William Beckett Denison, M.P. for East Retford, laid the foundation-stone of the second of the series of memorial churches to be erected in Leeds in connection with the church extension scheme, to which over 100,000% had been subscribed.

NEW COLLEGE CHAPEL .- On the 18th instant, after the weekly evening service, the congregation of New College Chapel, St. John's Wood, presented their pastor, the Rev. Johnson Barker, LL B., with a cheque for 300l., a handsome inkstand with a pair of candlesticks, and Smith's "Bible Dic-tionary" elegantly bound in three volumes. 25l. had been contributed by the junior members. H. B. Ince. Eaq., Q.C., made an appropriate speech, stating how willingly and cheerfully all contributed to the fund as a token of their high esteem for their pastor, and appreciation of his services among them for the last nine years. Mr. Barker, who was evidently much gratified by this unanimous expression of affection, then addressed the congregation in terms suited to the occasion.

congregation in terms suited to the occasion.

ALDERSHOT. — On the 24th a new Wesleyan Church was opened for Divine service at Aldershot, by the Rev. W. M. Punshon and the Rev. the President of the Wesleyan Conference. The memorial-stone of the church, which has been erected at a cost of about 10,000%, was laid in November last by Mr. McArthur, M.P. It will seat about 1,300 persons. An interesting feature in connection with the proceedings was the unveiling of a memorial window to the late General Sir James Hope Grant, by Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Montagu Steele, K.C.B., commanding the Aldershot division. The window was put up by soldiers and their friends in appreciation of the worth of General Grant as a soldier and a Christian. This new church is in the English decorated style of architecture.

The Next Pan-Anglican Synop.—We learn that almost every bishop in communion with the See of Canterbury has either replied to or accepted the invitation to be present at the coming Lambeth Synod. Independent of official answers to His Grace the Archbishop, many American and colonial bishops have been in frequent communication with various members of the home episcopate on the subject. Some of the most influential of the American prelates have made it a condition of their presence and co-operation that all subjects of pressing and common interest and importance shall remain perfectly free and open for discussion. Such a course was, in their opinion, rendered imperatively necessary by the joint action of the late Archbishop Longley and Bishops Thirlwall and Tait, who, as will be remembered, arranged to keep out of consideration the Natal case at the last Synod. Some American prelates have likewise most candidly expressed a hope that the members of the forthcoming synod may not again be officially excluded from the venerable sanctuary of Westminster Abbey. Amongst the subjects not unlikely to be considered are the restoration of the Athanasian Creed to the service book of the American Church, and the construction of rules and services for the guidance and worship of religious brotherhoods and sisterhoods. Final appeals in doctrinal questions, as regards the Colonial and American Churches, will also be considered.—Post.

FARNHAM.—The Rev. G. W. Joyce, late of Tavistock, having accepted a most cordial invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church in Farnham, a public welcome was accorded to him on Wednesday, Oct. 25, when a number of friends came from Aldershot, Alton, Crondall, Godalming, and other surrounding places. Tes was provided in the British schoolroom, which had been decorated by the ladies; and the public service took place in the handsome and commodious church, which was well filled, and the interest in the proceedings was sustained throughout. Mr. Bentall, the senior deacon, presided, and in his opening remarks expressed the great delight with which the people welcomed their new minister, who had already won his way to their esteem and affection, and whose pulpit and pastoral labours were so highly valued that the congregation had been doubled, and all the institutions of the church had been strengthened. Mr. Tily, another of the deacons, confirmed this, and added that they welcomed Mr. Joyce to hard work, which they were sure he was able and willing to undertake. Addresses of congratulation and counsel were delivered by the Rev. V. H. S. Aubrey, the Rev. J. S. Bright, the Rev. J. Marshall, and Mr. Scammell. The Rev. F. Holmes, of Alton, and the Rev. J. Roome, of Aldershot, were also present, but had to leave before the close of the meeting. Mr. Joyce replied in appropriate terms to the kindly greetings, testified to the warm and generous manner in which he had been received by his flock, and spoke hopefully of the prospects of usefulness.

MANCHESTER. - The opening services of the new chapel and extended schoolrooms of the branch church from Union Church, Oxford-road, Manchester, took place at Clowes street, West Gorton. This school effort started in the neighbourhood fourteen years ago. The number of scholars has increased to upwards of 600 in constant attendance, and a band of teachers numbering thirty-three. The work of the school, as also of the preaching services and other institutions, led to the formation of a church which now numbers 110. Hitherto all the meetings of the church and school have been held in one large schoolroom. But the growth of the cause necessitated the building of the chapel and extension of the school by additional class-rooms, &c. The whole has now been completed at a cost of about 3,400%. The chapel will seat about 600, and the schools comfortably accommodate as many scholars. On Wednesday, October 11, a devotional service was held; ministers, representatives, and friends from all the neighbouring free churches were present; and an address was given by the Rev. James Cunningham (Presbyterian, Longsight). Morning service on Sunday, the 15th, was conducted by the pastor. In the afternoon Mr. J. H. Crosfield addressed a very large gathering of young people, and a cho'r of children sang selections of sacred song. In the evening Rev. A. Maclaren (the paster of the parent church) preached. The collections realised 53. On Tuesday evening, the 17th, about 500 sat down to tea, and the after-meeting, presided over by Rev. A. Maclaren, was addressed by the Rev. Frank Trotman, W. S. Llewslyn, and W. H. Drewett (Independent).

Mr. H. L. Overbury also gave a sketch of the past history and present doings of the mission. The amount already raised by two sales of work and three years of continued effort by subscriptions was reported to be 3,050%. Gifts and promises were subsequently made amounting to 72%. On Thursday, evening the Revs. W. S. Davis and C. A. Davis gave addresses, and on Sunday, the 22nd, the Rev. James Hughes, of Barrow-in-Furness, preached. The remaining debt is about 200%.

DORRING.—It is now about seven years ago, that a Baptist cause was founded at Dorking, the first pastor of the infant church being the Rev. J. Wheatley, a student from the Pastor's College of the Metropolitan Tabernacle. From the com-mencement of the cause till the present time, the services have been held in an old schoolroom. The services have been held in an old schoolroom. disadvantages of this place of meeting were early felt, and in consequence of this subscriptions to a fund for a new place of worship were contributed. During the pastorate of Mr. G. Goldston, the successor of Mr. Wheatley, a considerable addition was made to the sum previously subscribed, and the fund has been greatly augmented since the oversight of the little church was undertaken by the present pastor, the Rev. Thomas Davies, late of Cheddar. The liberal gift of a site having been made by Mr. Thomas Steele, a new resident of the town, it was resolved at once to rise and build, and the memorial stone of the chapel was laid by the donor of the site in June last, and on Octob the new place of worship was opened for Divine service. Two excellent sermons were preached in the course of the day by the Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bloomsbury, and in the afternoon a tea-meeting, attended by more than 300 persons, representing the various Evangelical denominations in the town, took place in the Congregational schoolrooms. The new chapel is centrally situated, is of a plain style of architecture, and is capable of holding 350 persons. It has been erected at a cost, including architect's fee, of about 1,350%, of which sum rather more than 1,000% has been received, leaving a balance of nearly 300% yet to be raised. Such a debt, though a trifling one to a rich church, is far otherwise to a small and struggling one like the Baptist fellowship at Dorking. Non-conformity in Dorking is in a weakly, while High-Churchism is in a flourishing, condition. It is true that a few Nonconformists have, as individuals, for years past borne the "heat and burden of the day" in the defence of their principles, and in resisting the aggressions of State-Churchism. An ecclesiastical organisation has, however, been long and much needed to exemplify, as the Baptist churches generally do, a strength of conviction and a vigour of action in the maintenance of Evangelical Nonconformity and the promotion of religious equality.

STOCKWELL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. -On Sunday, Oct. 22, special sermons were preached to celebrate the reopening of the above church, which has undergone a thorough renovation. Besides the alterations in the lighting of the church, and the redecoration of the same, the old-fashioned, highbacked pews have been entirely demolished, and in their stead have been placed low-backed, open seats. Mr. Theodore Howard, of Bedford-street, Coventgarden, was the architect, to whom all credit is due for the skilful manner in which he has carried out the alterations. On Tuesday a social meeting was held in the church, Mr. J. Stiff presiding. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. Mr. Edwardes, and a hymn sung, Mr. Stiff, after alluding to the previous history of the Stockwell Congregational Church, said that now he hoped, after the great improvement effected, they had got a fresh start, and he trusted that every heart would be cheered, every seat occupied, and as the congregation increased, the pastor's power would likewise increase in the pulpit. They had made the church as attractive as possible, and they must now fill it up—every seat would have to be filled. He recollected the first chapel he was connected with. situated on the ground-floor, and they wished to erect a gallery to it. He put forth his best efforts, and collected 14 19s. towards this object, and They must not despise the day of small beginnings; for it was not always the people who ran fastest that reached the goal first. (Cheers.) The Revs. J. P. Turquand, J. G. Rogers, B.A., and — Edwardes having spoken, the Rev. J. B. Heard (the pastor) said that he wished to express his gratitude for the expressions of kindliness and sympathy they had received both on the right hand and on the left, both from friends of their own and other denominations. He could say for himself what his friend Mr. Rogers had said for him, that he had had his mental struggles and trials; and if had not been made plain to him that it was right and proper to go forward, he might have succumbed under the struggle. But though he had been assailed and sometimes depressed by these trials and struggles, his heart was always cheered again whenever he came among them at Stockwell. He would venture to say that at the present time they had the ideal pattern of a Christian church, and such a one as the apostle Paul would have loved and admired; and having such a building, he trusted and hoped that, with the Divine blessing, they might, as time went on, increase in Christian usefulness. Let them go steadily forward, cheered and encouraged by the signs of progression, and with the hope that by andbye they might increase their sphere of usefulness. (Cheers.) A collection was afterwards made, and a hymn having been sung and prayer offered, the meeting separated. On Thursday evening the Rev.

Dr. Parker preached to a large congregation. The collection amounted to about 40l.

THE LONDON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION held a meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 24, in Bloomsbury Chapel. At the morning session the Rev. J. T. Wigner presided, and a paper was read by the Rev. Dawson Burns, M.A., on "The Claims of the Temperance Movement upon our Ministers and Members," this subject having been selected by the committee of the association. Mr. Burns contended that the increase of intemperance and the ravages which strong drink made in our churches and schools, not sparing even the pastorate itself, and the hindrance to their evangelistic work through the alcoholic curse, increased the importance of the subject. This evil demanded a special line of action in order to its counteraction and annihilation, and he proceeded to describe the various methods that might be used to effect that object. A free discussion followed the reading of the paper. The Rev. J. P. Chown proposed, and the Rev. J. Clifford, M.A., seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Burns, which was very heartily carried. The Revs. D. Jones, B.A., F. Marchant, T. H. Holyoak, and T. V. Tymms in isted upon the liberty which Christians had in regard to the question of total abstinence, and urged that the co-operation desired should not be at the sacrifice of that liberty. The Revs. Joseph Fletcher and Dawson Burns spoke in reply. Dinner was provided in the schoolroom by the friends at Bloomsbury, and there was an afternoon meeting for ministers and delegates. The noon meeting for ministers and delegates. The
Rev. Charles Stanford, of Camberwell, delivered an
address on "Prayer for Signs and Wonders," which,
at the request of the assembly, he promised to
print. Mr. Tymms proposed the vote of thanks,
and Mr. Clifford seconded it. The resolution
having been carried, it was reported that the new
Baptist chapel in the Highgate-road would be ready
for overlag in the month of December. Mr. Wigner for opening in the month of December. Mr. Wigner announced that the chapel for the year is now in course of erection on freehold ground in Lower Norwood, on the border of West Dulwich. The cost of site (500%) has been contributed by the president and his personal friends. The cost of the chapel will be 5,000%, and when completed it will seat 650 on the ground floor, provision being made for galleries, when needed, to seat 350 more. stone will be laid on Nov. 21. The Rev. W. G. Lewis reported that some of the special evangelistic services under the auspices of the association had already been held, and in each case there had been large congregations and an earnest spirit manifested. The secretary reported that November 20 had been decided upon for the day of prayer and united Communion, and it was arranged that the services should be held at the following chapels: - Camden - road, Abbey - road, Ham-mersmith, Brixton-hill, Metropolitan Tabernacle, Brockley-road, East London Tabernacle; Downs, Clapton; and John-street, Bedford-row. Tea was provided in the schoolroom, and at seven o'clock a largely attended meeting was held in the chapel, under the presidency of Mr. Wigner. Prayer having been offered by the Rev. W. Brock, the chairman referred to the history of the association and its commencement in that building. The Rev. H. Roberts, B. A., of Notting-hill, gave an earnest address upon the importance of religious selfculture in view of the difficulties of the present times. After a short address from the Rev. W. Stott, of St. John's-wood, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon referred to the importance of personal religion and personal testimony. He could not say how much he admired with all his heart and soul the two manly addresses which Dr. Landels had delivered as president of the Baptist Union. (Cheers.) If they wished to gain applause it was an easy thing to get it-by simply saying there was no difference between them and other Christian bodies, and that they were all one; whereas they were not. Dr. Landels was now getting a pretty good share of abuse from those who had no arguments; and it was said that their brother did not represent the noblest part of the denomination. Mr. *purgeon, amid loud and continued cheers, "he For my own part, I endorse every represents us. word he said, and would stand with him in this matter with the greatest gladness." (Cheers.) Mr. Spurgeon went on to refer to the meritorious work carried on among the poor by Mr. Orsman, in Golden-lane, and Mr. Hatton in St. Giles's. They ought to have fifty such places. He wished the ladies in their churches would open their drawingrooms to teach young women. He also alluded to the letter by the Bishop of Winchester respecting the appointment of a new bishop for the see of St. Albans, in which South London was designated as the most spiritually destitute portion of Great Britain. A collection was made, and the proceedings closed with the benediction.

The difference between a suit of clothes and a suit at law is this—one provides you with pockets

and the other empties them.

Good Templars and the Negro. — The Manchester Examiner is informed that a great meeting of Good Templars was held on Wednesday night in Hope Hall. Liverpool, on the "negro question." The grand lodges in the Southern States having refused admission to negroes, the grand lodges of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales have seceded. A resolution in favour of the admission of negroes was passed with great enthusiasm. A similar resolution was passed at a large meeting, at which 1,400 members of the order were present, on Monday night, in the Mission Hall, Grosvenor-street, Manchester.

Correspondence.

DECONSECRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-In common with other citizens I received an invitation by circular to attend the so-called "Deconsecration" service recently held in the Church of Allhallows in Broad-street. Feeling some interest in the edifice in which the infant John Milton received baptism according to the rites of the Church of England, and a good deal of curiosity as to a ceremony which seemed, to say the least, to be somewhat novel, and in which it was announced that the Lord Mayor would assist, I attended the service. There was a considerable stir outside the church, and an eager crowd pressing in, and I entered, much wondering how the deconsecration was to be effected, and overhearing also sundry murmurs of contemptuous objection and ridicule. The extraordinary designation of the service, which was boldly placarded on the building, had evidently struck many minds besides mine. Now whether it was the rector, or the churchwardens, or both, who were responsible for the absurd proposal to "deconsecrate" the materials of the church about to be pulled down, I cannot tell, but I am bound in justice to say that for a Church of England service nothing could have been less Ritualistic, or characterised by greater simplicity. I need not give the details, but from beginning to end it was what might be described with truth as "Low Church." Moreover the bishop who preached (Bishop Claughton), and whose sermon—occupying only the orthodox twenty minutes, could have been easily matched by that of many a second-rate local preacher—took exception in his discourse to the descriptive word "deconsecration," and said again and again that their only object was to take a solemn farewell of a scene that must have been hallowed in the memory of many. As therefore the principal performer in the ceremony disavowed all responsibility for the unfortunate and misleading word used by some other official, you will be the first I am sure to give the bishop the advantage of this statement, which, strange to say, has not appeared, so far as I know, in any of the published reports.

I am, Sir, yours truly, JOHN TEMPLETON.

CLERICAL SCURRILITY.

* To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,-I beg to forward herewith an extract from the report of the proceedings of the diocesan conference at Exeter as reported by the Western Morning News of the 25th inst. On the burials question coming on for discussion,

coming on for discussion,

The Rev. F. Hockin (Phillack) said he believed that to attempt to conciliate irreconcilable people was the height of human folly. When Dissenters had the churchyards they would want the church. They would have all or none; a modicum would not satisfy them. He was well acquainted with a parish where, if the law was altered, three Dissenting ministers would officiate in the churchyard, one of whom was living in open incest, the second in incest of a different kind, and the third explated his offences in the county gaol. Archdeacon Earle rose to order. Was it right to introduce questions of that sort into a discussion of that kind? There were loud cries to go on, but Mr. Hockin's subsequent remarks were inaudible in consequence of the confusion that prevailed. confusion that prevailed.

Now, either Mr. Hockin has uttered an unprincipled libel, or he has hinted at circumstances which, in the commonest interests of Dissent, require the closest investigation and widest exposure. Mr. Hockin should be invited to furnish particular

> Yours truly, G. E.

Oct. 27, 1876.

[We suppose that this studiously offensive clergyman meant in reality that the persons in question had married the sisters of their deceased wives. Perhaps a letter addressed to Mr. Hockin himself would oblige him to be more explicit. Although he was put down by brother clergymen, this is but one of many proofs which show the depth and violence of the prejudice that obstructs any fair settlement of the burials question .- ED. Noncon.]

THE DISTRESS IN BULGARIA. To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As recent letters in one or more influen-tial London journals have called in question the truthfulness of the heartrending accounts, received from so many independent sources, of the widespread desolation in Bulgaria, and as the statements I refer to are calculated to check the continuance of public sympathy and charity, I venture to suggest that you would be rendering a public service, as well as doing justice to the cause of humanity, by giving wider publicity to some

portion at least of the following extracts from a letter which appeared in the Daily News of Saturday last.* The letter coming direct from the scene of misery, shows unmistakably that the relief which has been sent falls far short of the terrible necessities of the sufferers, and that the American missionaries, amongst others who are engaged in the same benevolent enterprise, are doing all in their power to mitigate present doing all in their power to mitigate present distress, and to prevent the still greater calamities threatened by the approaching winter.

May I also take this opportunity of informing your readers that the committee of this society have undertaken to remit to the missionaries in Bulgaria any contributions that may be entrusted to them, † if sent to their secretary the Rev. Henry Jones, 18, Adam-street, Strand. W.C., or to their bankers, Messra. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., No. 1, Pall Mall East, London,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant. HENRY JONES, Secretary.

THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

THE METROPOLIS.

As already stated in these columns the New London School Board, to be elected on the 30th of November, will consist of fifty members, apportioned as follows :- Chelsea, 4; City, 4; Finsbury, 6; Greenwich, 4; Hackney, 5; Lambeth, 6; Marylebone, 7; Southwark, 4; Tower Hamlets, 5; Westminster, 5. Some of the most conspicuous members of the old board have already announced their intention of retiring. Amongst these are the Vice-Chairman, Sir E. H. Currie (Tower Hamlets); Lord Napier and Ettrick, Canon Barry, and Dr. Rigg, the well-known Wesleyan (Westminster); Canon Cromwell (Cheisea); Lord Mayor Cotton and the redoubtable Canon Gregory for the city, there still being some hope that Mr. Morley, M.P., will stand again; four of the members for Marylebone, Mrs. Cowell, Miss Chessar (who may perhaps stand for Finsbury), Prebendary Irons, and the Rev. Ll. Bevan. Greenwich loses two experienced members - Mr. John Macgregor ("Rob Roy"), who took a special interest in industrial schools, and the Rev. Benjamin Waugh, whose indefatigable labours in connexion with some special departments of the board have, we regret to say, impaired his health. Amongst the new candidates already announced are Mrs. Westlake, wno stands for Marylebone, and Miss Taylor, step-daughter of the late John Stuart Mill, who is a candidate for Southwark. It is useless to repeat this week the list of candidates, for they are just now changing a good deal. Some new ones have appeared during the last few days. Amongst these is Mr. Arthur O'Connor, who appears before the ratepayers of Southwark as a Roman Catholic candidate in place of Mr. James Wallace, who retires. For Finsbury, as already stated, there are three Church candidates, which have the patronage of the National Society, viz., Lord F. Hervey, Mr. Lovell, and Mr. Capel, and three Liberals, the Rev. John Rodgers, Mr. Mark Wilks, and Mr. Lucraft. A seventh candidate for the six seats for this division has now come forward in the persons of Mr. Davenport, who represents the vestry or cheeseparing interest. He will probably be followed by a candidate on the other side. A new candidate in favour of the school board policy has also been invited to come forward for the Chelsea division, viz., Mr. Joseph F. B. Firth, a member of the Society of Friends, who is in favour of the Birmingham plan of religious education, though not anxious to disturb the compromise at present in operation in the metropolis. His return for this constituency in which the advanced Liberals are in the majority, in conjunction with Mr. Freeman and Dr. Gladstone, would be the gain of a seat for the school board party. It is understood that Mr. Firth will be largely supported by working men. Mr. Olding, one of the Liberal candidates for Hackney has retired. If no fresh candidates are brought forward, it is possible that Mr. R. Foster, one of the present members of the board will retire, and that there will be no contest. The address of Mr. Picton appears in another column. That of Sir Charles Reed has already been published. The candidate who takes the field for Greenwich in place of Mr. Waugh is Mr. J. E. Saunders of the Common Council.

The addresses of the several candidates are now being issued, and we have published, or given extracts from several of them. That of Mr. Stiff, who, with the Rev. G. M. Murphy and Mr. Stanley Kemp-Welch, contests the Lumbeth

division, appears elsewhere. Mr. Murphy, in his practical address, shows that he has been indefatigable in the work of the board, in whose action as regards industrial school work, and the provision of training for the blind and the deaf and dumb, he takes a special interest. He has also devoted much attention to the educational endowments of the metropolis, which have been investigated by a committee, and have been shown to have been to a large extent alienated from their educational objects. They amounted about thirty years ago to nearly a quarter of a million. Mr. Murphy says :-

nearly a quarter of a million. Mr. Murphy says:—

I heartily endorse the past policy of the board. At
my suggestion, for the last few months, every new
school built has been publicly opened, to give the ratepayers and parents in the various localities an opportunity of meeting the members face to face, and questioning them, if they thought proper, as to that policy,
and with scarcely an exception it has been unanimously endorsed. Our school buildings are plain and
substantial; the teaching good and in accordance with
the Government code, and compulsion is carried out
with the greatest consideration for all concerned. Sixtyone of our visitors are employed where no board schools one of our visitors are employed where no board schools exist, and consequently are filling, and keeping full, so called voluntary schools, there being at present in London over 30,000 children more in average attendance at these schools than when the board began its

More than twenty years of my life have been devoted to labours among the people of some of the poorest districts of Lambeth and South London, and I am districts of Lambeth and South London, and I am thankful to say not altogether in vain. Ignoranse, intemperance, and irreligion have found in me an uncompromising foe, and I hope it will be so to the end. I felt honoured by the appreciation of those labours, as manifested by my position on the poll at the last election, and should you again do me the honour of returning me to the board, I will try my best heartily to carry out the true education of the children of the metropolis at the smallest possible cost at which it can be well and wisely done.

The address of Mr. Firth advocates a very careful use of the compulsory bye-law, and praises the action of the present boards on the question of sites. On the religious question he says :-

I am opposed to all sectarian teaching in board schools. The instruction which is given at the public expense ought to be confined to the secular subjects for proficiency in the knowledge of which the teachers are selected. I should vote for the use of the schools out of school hours, and on Sundays being granted to religious teachers of every denomination, and to voluntary association for the religious education of the poor. But until the board school system is complete I am in favour of maintaining the present compromise on the favour of maintaining the present compromise on the

Mr. Firth thinks that more female teachers should be employed, and that the loans for sites and buildings should be repaid in eighty instead of fifty years, with the view of diminishing the burden cast upon the ratepayers of this generation. He also thinks that the time has come for a thorough investigation of the condition of educational endowments in London, "and where necessary, to take such steps as may be required to finally secure the benefits of these funds to the classes for whom they were intended,"

The addresses of the three Liberal candidates for Marylebone, who have a united committee, appear on one placard. From that of Mr. James Watson, who has taken a most active part in the work of the board since it began operations six years ago, we give the following extract, as it not only vindicates the past action of the board, but furnishes precise and useful information :-

The Education Department has been entrusted by Parliament with the duty of deciding what amount of school provision is required in any given district. According to their rule, the school population of London, after making the usual deductions for all causes of absence, requires 518,000 school places. For these the managers of efficient voluntary schools have up to this date provided 287,000 places, leaving 231,000 to the charge of the board.

With a view to overtake this enormous deficiency the

With a view to overtake this enormous deficiency the board have already provided, or taken measures to provide, including transferred schools, 188,000 school places, leaving a further margin of 45,000, in addition to the deduction made on the scale of the Education Depart-

The actual attendance in all efficient schools in London in the spring of 1871 was 174,301, while the average during the half-year which ended at Midsummer last was 305,749, showing an increase of 131 448. Of this increase 40.194 has taken place in voluntary, and 91,254 in board schools. The increase effected in school tendance after six years' effort is thus seventy-five per

In addition to the efforts of the board to fill the efficient schools of London, through their visitors, the Industrial Schools Committee have done their atmost to clear the streets of neglected children. More than 5,000 have either been sent to industrial schools, returned to their parents, or otherwise cared for. To the good thus effected in diminishing juvenile crime,

the police authorities have borne willing testimony.

Had the board proceeded with less vigour, and spread the work of school provision over twice as many years as they have done, no doubt the charge upon the rates now would be considerably less; but the Education Act gave them no discretion; they were enjoined to "proceed at once," and the ratepayers will find in the end that this has been the truest economy.

Dr. Angus invites the support of the ratepayers on the ground that the continuance of the work of the board is essential to the advance of education in

This letter was quoted in full in our last number.
 + Warm clothing being urgently needed, contributions of that kind will be gladly forwarded from this office at the least possible expense.

London, and that board schools form part of that great system of self-government, to which England owes so much. The question now is, he says, whether the moderate course adopted in respect to the London board shall be set aside in favour of denominational teaching. The Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley in his address considers that it is undesirable to disturb the settlement on the religious question which was arrived at nearly six years ago, and has given general satisfaction. He hopes that the heaviest part of the expenditure of the London Board has now already been incurred, but holds that it would be the falsest economy to retrench in such a way as to diminish the efficiency of our schools.

We should thereby do an injustice to the children, and we should indirectly lose more by the reduction of the Government grant, than we could save by paring down our educational appliances. Moreover, I feel confident that by extending sound education, we shall in a few years greatly diminish our pauperism and crime, and thereby save in other rates more than the whole of the education rate.

Mr. Stanley, like many other Liberal candidates, lays stress upon the proper administration of the educational endowments of London, especially with the view of securing a larger supply of well-trained teachers, but he remarks that the disposal of these charities lies with Parliament, and not with the London School Board, which can do no more than

make representations on the subject.

The above will suffice as samples of the addresses issued by the candidates who avowedly support the policy of the present School Board of London. On the part of the Church candidates, which appear to have been selected by a central committee-we presume, the National Society-there is a great want of explicitness. Their tone is rather that of pleading for fair play to the "voluntary" schools than indicative of any intention to thwart in any way the school board system. It is to be hoped that the rate-payers of London will not be deceived by these addresses, but will zealously support those candidates who give a hearty ad-hesion to the present policy of the board, in order to prevent the by no means impossible result of the return of a majority of Church and Roman Catholic members on the new School Board for London.

BIRMINGHAM.—Three of the present Liberal majority, Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., Mr. Jesse Collings, and Miss Sturge, retire, and the following are selected as the Liberal candidates:—Mr. R. W. Dale, Mr. G. Dixon, Mr. George Dawson, Dr. Langford, Rev. E. F. M. MacCarthy, Mr. J. S. Wright, Rev. H. W. Crosskey, and Mr. T. Beeston. In place of the Rev. Canon O'Sullivan, who retires, the Roman Catholics have selected the Rev. Canon Longman. The Scriptural Educational Union have intimated their intention to select six candidates. intimated their intention to select six candidates, as at the last election. Mr. Davis, an Independent working man, who unsuccessfully contested pre-vious elections, is also in the field. The number to be elected is fifteen, and if the Church party do not withdraw a candidate the election will be

MANCHESTER.-Two or three meetings of the clergy and other supporters of denominational education have been held with reference to the election, which is fixed to take place on Nov. 16. After much discussion it has been decided to retain the same number of candidates for the new board as now represents the interests of the Established Church, viz., seven; but alterations in the personnel have been thought desirable. Messrs. Lamb and Anderton have supported the policy of Lamb and Anderton have supported the policy of establishing board schools where a deficiency of accommodation has existed, and Mr. J. A. Bremner is said to have deserted the Conservative party and joined the Unsectarian section. Another has left the city. The new nominations in their places are the Rev. John Henn, Mr. James Croston, Mr. e Rev. John H Mr. J W. O. Pooley, and Mr. George Milner. The other three Church candidates who are now on the board are Mr, Herbert Birley (the chairman), Mr. Thomas Dale, and the Rev. Joseph Nunn. The Roman Catholics, who are now represented by three members, may probably run four candidates; while the undenominational party, who have been hitherto represented by five members, are somewhat undecided as to the action they shall pursue. If they are united, and are not troubled-as on former occasions-with individual candidates, it is thought that they might return seven representatives; while the Wesleyans might return one. This would change the minority into a majority and lead to the free establishment of board schools and the absorption of comparatively inefficient denominational schools into the board system. A few days will decide the course to be pursued.

SHEFFIELD. - A meeting of the council of the Liberal Association has been held for the purpose of selecting, in view of the approaching school board election, three candidates for the vacancies crused by the retirement of Mesars. Allott and Eadon, and the death of Mr. Wardlow. Nineteen nominations were received, and in the case of twelve of these, letters were received desiring that the nominations might be withdrawn. The seven whose nominations went to the council were Mr. H. J. Wilson, Mr. Batty Langley, Mr. W. Rolley,

Mr. F. E. Smith, Mr. Michael Hunter, jun., Mr. Muscroft, and Mr. T. O. Hinchcliffe. A ballot was taken, the result of the voting being in favour of Mr. H. J. Wilson, Mr. Batty Langley, and Mr. Rolley. Some conversation took place respecting a resolution passed a short time since by a meeting of Conservatives, in which it was stated that if the Liberal party would not oppose the twelve retiring members of the Board who sought re-election the Conservatives, would not oppose the Liberal Conservatives would not oppose the Liberal Association in filling up the three vacancies before mentioned. It was stated by Mr. H. J. Wilson, however, that this resolution had never been officially communicated to the association, and that he believed it never would. The date fixed for the election is Tuesday, November 21. The last

day for receiving nominations will be November 8.

Bradford.—The following are announced to be
the "Liberal Eight" in the contest:—Messrs.
Charles Lund, James Law, Joshua Pollard,
Charles Turner, James Hanson, Rev. Dr. Fraser,

Benjamin Illingworth, and Brian Dufty.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—A meeting of the Church and Nonconformist delegates has been held for the purpose of discussing the proposition put for the purpose of discussions and the purpose of the purpose of discussions and the purpose of ward by the Church party with the view of coming to some amicable arrangement for the election of a new board, and the following resolution was agreed to:—"At a meeting of the delegates of the representative Church party and of the Nonconformists, it was mutually agreed that, in order to avoid putting the town to the expense of a contested elec-tion, each party should select five gentlemen as members of the new school board, leaving the eleventh seat to be filled by the Roman Catholics." This agreement was signed by all the gentlemen present, as follows:—The Rev. Henry Hampton, and Messrs. Henry H. Fowler, William Edwards, W. H. Jones, Robert P. Walker, and Samuel S. Mander. The Rev. H. Hampton, the present chairman of the board, will not offer himself for a cleaning to the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for a cleaning to the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the coard, will not offer himself for the chairman of the chair product of the chairman of the chair chairman of the chair chairman of the chairman of the chairman of the chair chairman of the chairman of the chairman of the chair chairman of the chairman of the chairman of the chair chairman of the re-election. On the chief point of difference as to the chairmanship of the new board, it was agreed to leave the question for the decision of the new board when they take their seats. It was also arranged that in the event of a vacancy occurring on the board during the three years for which the members will be elected, it shall be left with the party with whom the retiring or deceased member was connected to fill up the vacancy.

BOARD SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS FORMULARIES. In a recent speech at Tunbridge Wells, the Primate, it may be remembered, remarked that, in the opinion of the Education Department, there was nothing to prevent teaching being given in board schools in the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles' Creed. The Inquirer, in commenting on this remark, says that, though the Lord's Prayer involves no sectaring destring the Lord's Prayer involves no sectarian doctrine, the Apostles' Creed does. It was not the Apostles' Creed. The mythical story of its origin, that the apostles severally and in succession contributed its clauses, cannot be seriously maintained. It also contains matter which children could not possibly understand, and which no teacher would attempt to explain to them.

Passing by some other points of fair objection, the child is taught by this creed to believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, and the Resurrection of the Body. To explain the Holy Ghost, from the archbishop's point of view, would involve distinctly Trinitarian teaching; the "Holy Catholic Church" is a phrase utterly incomprehensible to children, and no Churchman would explain it without affirming theological doctrines that plain it without affirming theological doctrines that Nonconformists all reject. In the mind of an Anglican, as in that of a Roman Catholic, this Church is a definite organisation/based upon the apostolic succession of its chief officers, and upon sacramental powers bestowed upon its priests.

Few educated Churchmen or Dissenters believe in the "resurrection of the body," and yet this is a doctrine the archbishop wishes children to be crammed with. It does not appear to have been the doctrine of St. Paul, whose well known words emphatically contradict it; but he is not supposed to have had anything to do with making the "Apostles' Creed."

There are also serious objections to such a use being made of the Ten Commandments. It is absurd to tell little boys and girls not to "commit adultery," and to keep the Sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" holy, and not to do any manner of work in the sabbath or "seventh day" he sabbath or "seventh that their hearts may be inclined "to keep this law," it is generally set at defiance. Neither the archbishop nor his clergy attempt to keep the "seventh day" as the commandment directs, nor do they contemplate preventing their servants from doing any manner of work either then or on the first day.

PUBLIC MEN ON THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P., addressing his constituents at Deal on Wednesday evening, maintained that Her Majesty's Ministers were as indignant as any one in this country at the atrocities which had taken place. He did not ho'd the Government responsible for the commission of the outrages, he entirely acquitted Earl Beaconsfield of the charge of levity when referring to the matter in the House of Commons, and he did not think that the Government did any other than the best in sending the fleet to Besika Bay. At the same time he was unable to give an unqualified support to Her Majesty's Ministers. Whilst indig-nation meetings were being held Mr. Gladstone came to the front, and took a course which had

been condemned by political opponents, as well as by many political friends. He wrote a pamphlet and made a speech. He (Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen) was not a blind admirer of Mr. Gladstone. In that pamphlet and that speech there were some things he would not have written or spoken himself. Things were said which were uncalled for, and he thought that the great mistake which Mr. Gladstone made was in laying down definite views as to the policy of the future; for things so changed from day to day that it was things so changed from day to day that it was unwise for any man to lay down absolute views But, in acting at he had done, Mr. Gladstone had acted in a loyal English spirit, but he had acted on this occasion as on others, too much on impulse, though in a loyal English spirit. (Cheers.) The antecedents of Lord Beaconsfield, with regard to Italian independence, did not inspire him with confidence. The greatest error which had yet been made by the Government was in the rejection of the Berlin Memorandum. The three Powers the Berlin Memorandum. The three Powers closest to Turkey—Russia, Germany, and Austria—agreed upon the basis, the first step of which was an armistice of six weeks' or two months. They telegraphed to Italy, France, and England. Italy and France accepted the basis, leaving the details to be settled afterwards, England refused to join unless certain guarantees were given. It was not the time for argument. If we had said, let us accept the basis; details and guarantees can follow, then Servia, which had not up to that time declared war, might have been prevented from ever declaring war. At all events there was a hope that war would have been prevented, and whilst hope remained no means should have been left untried. (Applause. He did not sympathise with the attempt to get up a feeling in this country against Russia. If he (Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen) had the power to turn the present Government out of office at this moment he would not do so, because he believed that it would weaken England. But, whilst he would support them in their endeavours to bring the Eastern Question to a satisfactory issue, he held himself free to act as he thought proper

during the next session.

Mr. Mundella, M.P., in addressing a meeting of the Liberal party at Worcester, said he considered the foreign policy of the Government had been suicidal. The Bulgarian atrocities might have been avoided had the Government taken proper measures beforehand. He maintained that they could not have done more than they had done to play into the hands of Russia. The English ministers had held aloof and refused the Berlin Note, and the result was that at that moment we found ourselves

isolated from our allies.

Sir Henry James made a powerful speech at Taunton on Thursday, in which he brought out very strongly the miserable character of the tyranny which had driven the Herzegovinians into rebellion —the treachery of the Turks, even under the very eyes of our Consuls—the obstinate refusal of Lord Derby to interfere at all in their behalf, on the ground that any interference was an injury to the authority of the Porte-his snubs to the Russian Ambassador when he asked England to bring forward some alternative proposal, better than the Berlin Memorandum, which might stop the war in the East—his avowed conviction that Turkey and the insurgent provinces must fight it out-and the uselessness of the tardy concession in September of what might have stopped the strife in May. He doubted whether there had been any reaction in public opinion. If the Government was less blamed now than six weeks ago, it was because the public believed that the Government had come round to them, not because they had come round to the Government. Sir Henry concluded:—"With the past I have now done; of the future I will only say that I can conceive no course more destructive to our hopes of peace than for men entertaining different views to declare that in no case will we go to war, or to say we will never consent to Russia reaching Constantinople. (Hear, hear.) Either view must strengthen one of the contending forces. The first is to promise neutrality to Russia whatever she may do; the second is to allow the Turks to treat our army as standing in front of their capital; but though the errors of the first may never be wholly retrieved, the English people may escape from much of their effects if in certain voice they will clearly say that the day on which this country shall proclaim a war which is other than inevitable, will be the day from which will date the downfall of a Ministry." (Loud and continued

Mr. Cross, the Home Secretary, was present on Tuesday at the opening of the new Conservative Club at Manchester. Lord Winmarleigh presided, and the club was opened with great ceremony. After the opening there was a banquet, and Mr. Cross was presented with a golden fac simile of the key of the building. In responding to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," the right hon. gentleman made a lengthy speech, in the course of which he vindicated the humanity of the members of the Cabinet, who had the feelings of every Englishman. He went on to say: The question in this case was not what we should like to be done, but what could That view of the question had been well expressed by Lord Derby some time ago. As Lord Derby well put it, they were not to consider the question as the Ottoman Empire qua the Ottoman Empire, but as affecting our relation to the Eastern States of Europe generally; and if they came to consider the matter seriously they would see that these were two totally different things. There was a difference between maintaining the integrity of

the Ottoman Empire and interfering with the relations of the Sultan with the rest of his subjects. The Government had never been indifferent to the outcry of the subjects of the Sultan. They knew well enough evils that had been carried on in that country—the atrocities in the district of the Lebanon, in Crete, and in Greece. All these matters had been duly considered, and there was no reason whatever why those circumstances should not be taken into consideration, and dealt with in a similar manner as in the case of Rosnia. Hornial the case of Rosnia. not be taken into consideration, and dealt with in a similar manner as in the case of Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Bulgaria. . . . As Lord Derby had said, most justly and wisely, and no one had disputed it, the end of the Eastern Question was Constantinople. (Hear, hear.) When we came to that, as Lord Derby had put it quite clearly, and he (Mr. Cross) believed, truly, no one Great Power could hold Constantinople, because the other Powers would not allow it, and a joint occupation, as Lord Derby had put it, would be a very doubtful and somewhat dangerous experiment. He was asked what had the conduct of Her Majesty's Governwould not allow it, and a joint occupation, as Lord Derby had put it, would be a very doubtful and somewhat dangerous experiment. He was asked what had the conduct of Her Majesty's Government been? On this occasion they would allow him to answer in a very few words. In the acceptance of the Andrassy Note, in the rejection of the Berlin Memorandum, and in the sending of the fleet to Besika Bay—all these things took place before Parliament broke up; so in the case of the despatch of August to which he had referred, in which Lord Derby said that if the atrocities were repeated the indignation of Europe would become uncontrollable, and the interference of Europe in a hostile sense to Turkey inevitable—all these things took place before Parliament rose; there were debates upon them in Parliament; and they received the all but unanimous approval of the nation. The last word in Parliament which was uttered on behalf of the Ministers would be found in the speech of Her Majesty the Queen, in which she said, "Should a favourable opportunity present itself, I shall be ready, in concert with my allies, to offer my good offices for the purpose of mediation between the contending parties, bearing in mind alike the duties imposed upon me by treaty obligations and those which arise from considerations of humadity and policy." (Cheers.) These promises had, he maintained been thoroughly fulfilled by the action of Lord Derby and of the Government since Parliament rose. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, the right hon, gentleman urged that Lord Derby had proposed the only proper solution of the Eastern Question, and he expressed a hope that his proposals might yet lead to peace. (Applause.)

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The French papers announce that the Prince of Wales will pass a month in Paris, from the middle of November to the middle of December.

A telegram from Cairo announces that England, France, Germany, and Austria have formally noti-fied their approval of the judgment recently given against the Daira.

A telegram from Shanghai says:—"Mr. Mayers has concluded an arrangement with the Viceroy that the Woosung Railway shall be purchased by the Chinese Government, but worked by the present

company for one year."

It is stated that the grand ceremonial at Delhi in connection with the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India will cost less than one-fourth of the sum recently named—half-a-million sterling.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND THE PAPACY.—

The Pope, having desired to divide the Archbishopric of Lyons into two dioceses, at his own pleasure and without the ascent of the French Government, the latter has issued a decree putting a stop to this beginning of an encroachment on the part of the Vatican. The Government accepts the portion of the Papal Bull consecrating a new archbishop, but rejects the provisions contained in it altering the division of the district.

THE IRISH ADDRESS TO PRESIDENT GRANT .-The American correspondent of the Times says further correspondence has passed between the State Department and Messrs. Power and Parnell, the Irish members of Parliament, respecting the presentation of the Irish Centennial address. The gentlemen urge that the intervention of the British Minister is not necessary, as the address comes from the Irish people, and not from the British nation. The Assistant-Secretary of State, Mr. Cadwallader, writes to them that Sir Edward Thornton bases his refusal to take part in the presentation upon the objectionable contents of the address, and that the practice in such cases being well settled, cannot be changed. Sir Edward announces his willingness personally to present the members to the President, but says that he is not justified in taking part in the presentation of an address without express instructions. Messrs. Power and Parnell have resolved, as might be expected, not to present the address at all.

M. GAMBETTA AT BELLEVILLE .- On Friday evening M. Gambetta delivered an address at a meeting of his constituents in Belleville. There were about 3,500 persons present. After stating that he was ready to answer the questions that might be put to him, he went on to declare that he had faithfully fulfilled the task with which he had been entrusted, and now, having chosen his own time, he came to render an account of his stewardship. There were two ways of carrying on a policy, namely, by negotiating and by fighting. He was opposed to a battle of violence, and repudiated such a policy in the name of universal suffrage. He did not fear losing popular favour, for he was sure of his ability

to prove that he was in the right. He then explained the usefulness of a policy of expediency, pointing to the results which had thereby been obtained—namely, the constitution of the Republic. With regard to the amnesty he said he did not approve the too absolute and violent formula which had been advected of externion. had been adopted of categories. The Commune was had been adopted of categories. The Commune was not the explosion of a party, but the result of the misery of the people. (Here shouts were raised of "Amnesty.") M. Gambetta declared that he repudiated the position of a mere delegate (le mandat imptratif), adding:—"A pointshould only be pushed to its extreme conclusion when we are certain of having the whole country with us. Some persons have thought me vehement and ready to make any have thought me vehement and ready to make any sacrifice for popularity. They are mistaken. One thing stands out before all, and that is France." M. Gambetta recommended union among the Republicans as more necessary now than ever, in order to resist the coalitions of various parties under the banner of clericalism. He knew but one policy that which he bad pursued—the policy of reason, wisdom, and patience, the policy of expediency; and he asked whether he ought to follow a policy of inexpediency which would lead to disaster and shipwreck. He would remain the representative of Belleville in order that he might be able to come before its inhabitants to convince them of the necessity for the policy he was carrying out. The speech was loudly cheered.

Epitome of Aews.

The Queen, taking a drive last Sunday after noon in the neighbourhood of Balmoral, remained for some time observing the labourers in a harvest field gathering in the grain that had been laid out to dry on the previous day. The weather recently in the extreme North and North-west of Scotland has been very rainy, and as a consequence harvest operations have been greatly impeded, and in several districts the farmers set their people to work on a favourable Sunday to bring in the crops. Some on a favourable Sunday to bring in the crops. Some of the Scotch clergy have in consequence preached sermons denouncing this "desecration of the Sabbath." The Queen on Sunday last, after watching the harvest labourers for some time quietly remarked that she thought it a work of necessity that ought to be done.

The Prince of Wales and a party of guests have been visiting the Duke of Grafton at Euston Hall, near Thetford, since Thursday, for three days' shooting. On Saturday the Prince returned to London.

The Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse will leave Buckingham Palace this week for Sandringham, to stay a few days with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Queen has, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, been graciously pleased to confer a pension of 100% a year on Mrs. Lane, the widow of the late Abdward William Lane, the eminent Oriental scholar.

A dinner in commemoration of the twenty-second anniversary of the Balaklava Charge was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Wednesday. About seventy of the survivors of the "six hundred"

The Duke of Abercorn will relinquish his office as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland about the middle of next month, and the Duke of Marlborough, his successor, will immediately enter upon his duties. Mr. Gladstone has been down to Dover, and took

the opportunity of visiting Earl Granville at Walmer Castle. On his return to town Castle. On his return to town on Friday the Marquis of Hartington, who has returned from his tour in Eastern Europe, had an interview with Mr. Gladstone, who left for Hawarden on Saturday.

It is stated that the whole of the members of the Cabinet (with the exception of the Duke of Richmond) have signified their intention to be present at the Lord Mayor's banquet on the 9th of November.

The Leeds Mercury says :- "Cur readers will be glad to learn that the health of Sir Titus Salt is somewhat improved, and that on Thursday he was able to leave Crow Nest, Lightcliffe, for Scar-borough, whither he was accompanied by his

borough, whither he was accompanied by his family and Dr. Charteris, of Hipperholme."

The Philadelphia Press of October 5 announces that the degree of LL.D. has been conferred by Yale University, United States, upon Sir Charles Reed, the president of the Judges on Education at the Centennial Exhibition.

The Rev. J. A. Porter, M.A., was elected on Saturday to the mastership of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, vacant by the death of Dr. Cookson. The new master has long been tutor of his college, and has taken an active part in the administration of the affairs of the University.

Sir John Stuart, late Vice-Chancellor and some

time M.P. for Newark, died on Sunday.

Lord Kinnaird on Wednesday formally opened a school of cookery in Dundee, in the presence of a large audience.

Nearly eighty spirit licences were cancelled on Thursday on various grounds by the police magistrates of Dublin.

The revision of the list of voters for the county of Middlesex shows a total Conservative gain of 1,100 votes.

The Cavendish College, at Cambridge, was opened on Thursday by the Duke of Devonshire. Its main object is to place a University education within the reach of those who are obliged to commence the active work of life at an earlier age than ordinary

undergraduates. Earl Fortescue, at the luncheon succeeding the ceremory, enumerated the various claims which the college had upon the public. The advantages of the institution were also dwelt upon by the Duke of Devonshire, Professor Fawcett, M.P., Mr. Rodwell, M.P., Mr. S. Morley, M.P., and Mr. Marten, M.P.

The Metropolitan Board of Works on Friday resolved to promote a bill in the ensuing session for freeing the toll bridges over the Thames. They also directed that schemes should be prepared under the Artisans' Dwellings Act for dealing with several unhealthy areas, which will involve the destruction of nearly six thousand rooms, the displacement of some 14,000 people, and an expenditure approaching one million sterling, of which rather more than a half will be recouped.

ing one million sterling, of which rather more than a half will be recouped.

Mr. Taylor, of Aston Rowent, Oxfordshire, has sent a donation of £1,000 to Girton College, in fulfilment of the wish of his daughter Edith, who had intended to become a student, but who had unfortunately died of typhoid fever contracted last summer while on a tour in Switzerland.

Captain Tyler has reported to the Board of Trade upon the Radstock collision on the Somerset and Dorset railway in August. He sets forth in detail many defects of regulations and working which came to light on his inquiry, and points out the modes that have been recommended for avoiding the dangers peculiar to single lines. In conclusion Captain Tyler remarks that more depends after all upon strict discipline than upon the excellence of the system adopted.

system adopted.

The Home Secretary, at Ince, cut the first sod of the Wigau Junction Railway, a line intended to facilitate communication with the adjacent coal facilitate communication with the adjacent coal districts. At a luncheon subsequently Mr. Cross referred generally to the management of railways, and expressed a hope that the valuable suggestions which he believed would be contained in the report of the Commission on Railway Accidents would be adopted, or even anticipated by railway companies, without waiting to be compelled by the Legislature to act in accordance with them.

A meeting in favour of the establishment of institutes for working lads was held at the Mansion House under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. It was represented that there are thousands of boys It was represented that there are thousands of boys in London of twelve years of age and upwards, who, having no specific employment or substantial attraction after working hours, spend their time in idleness. The supporters of the movement desire to plant institutions throughout London where such lads will in the evening find comfort, rational amusement, and interesting literature. Among the speakers were Professor Leone Levi, Bishop Claughton, Sir Charles Reed, and Alderman Sir R. Carden.

The nomination for South Shropshire will take

The nomination for South Shropshire will take place on Friday. Mr. Severne, Conservative, is the only candidate in the field, and a Liberal is not expected to offer himself.

By a railway collision at Brierfield, near Burnley,

on Friday, four men were killed and several persons were injured.

The movement for the erection of a statue in reognition of the services of the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., in procuring the repeal of the Corn Laws, has been successful. The cost of the memo-rial will be about 1,000%. Mr. Villiers has held the seat for Wolverhampton since 1835.

Captain Allen Young bas returned from the Arotic regions as well as Captain Narcs. The Pandora passed Crookhaven at noon on Monday, and from thence Captain Young telegraphed to the Admiralty that all was well on board the ship. The Alert and Discovery left Queenstown for Portsmouth on Monday afternoon.

Mr. John Bright arrived in Edinburgh on Satur-

day evening from Kelso, and was the guest of Mr. Duncan M'Laren, M.P. He left on Monday for Newcastle.

Speaking on Monday at the quarterly meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Mr. the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Edmund Ashworth, the President, stated that, while our exports to Russia last year were only 3,100,000%, to Turkey they were 13,000,000%, and he argued that were Constantinople transferred to Russian authority it would be a bad day for Eng-land and England's commerce. Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., said he believed it would be for the interest of the peace of the world if the waters leading to the Black Sea were open to the fleets of all the world.

A unanimous resolution was on Saturday passed A unanimous resolution was on Saturday passed at the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, de-claring that the present system of administering the county expenditure solely by the magistrates at quarter sessions is indefensible, and recom-mending the establishment of county tinancial boards, with due provision for the representation of ratepayers thereon.

It is said that disease of a most virulent form has broken out in the potato-fields of Kent, Mid-

dlesex, Lincolashire, and Yorkshire.

The wife of a gardener employed at Withington threw herself and her child into the river at Didsbury, near Manchester, on Saturday. Both were drowned. The woman had been drinking for some days past.

Edward Delworth and Henry Richardson, secre-taries of the Bootmakers' Union, were found guilty at the Central Criminal Court, on Friday, of picketing and intimidation, with a view to prevent certain bootmakers proceeding to work. The former was sentenced to one month, and the latter two months', imprisonment, with hard labour.

BOARD, &c., IN LONDON AT MR. & MRS. BURR'S, 10, 11, 12, QUEEN SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY.

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SCHOOL BOARD FOR LONDON.

the ELECTORS of the LAMBETH DIVISION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

It we the present opportunity of thanking you for the confidence you have twice shown in returning me as one of your Representatives, and of asking for your suffrages at the next election which is fixed for the 30th November.

The School Board for London, notwithstanding some minor errors, has well and fairly performed the work entrusted to it, and any radical change in its policy would, I venture to think, be prejudicial to the best interests of a sound, practical, religious, and unsectarian education.

When Schools have been built on all the purchased or selected sites, the Lambeth Division will possess 45 Schools, with accommodation for 36,611 children; a provision of 12 Schools and 6,000 places more then any other Division of London.

With a few exceptions, the Board Schoo's have filled as fast as they have been opened, and yet at Midsummer last there were about 40 000 more children in the efficient Voluntary Schools of the Metropolis than before the Board began its work. During the six years of the Board's existence 164,000 additional children have been brought under efficient elementary instruction, 123,000 of whom are being educated in Board Schools.

l64,000 additional children have been brought under efficient elementary instruction, 123,000 of whom are being educated in Board Schools.

We have the Duke of Richmond's official suthority for the statement that "the London School Board, even under the circumstances of the higher cost of land, material, and labour in the Metropolis, was considerably less in the average cost of its Schools—Schools excellently built, and calculated to be a credit to the Metropolis—than many country towns." The expense of maintaining a large staff of Masters, Mistresses, and other officials is necessarily great, but the total demand which the Educational Rate (for School Sites, Buildings, and all Working Expenses,) makes upon the £39 Householder, for example, is only a fraction over 2d, per week, whilst part of this sum will soon be saved in the reduced Police and Prison charges of the Metropolis. Is this a very high price to pay for the reclamation of the neglected, and the instruction of the poorer, children of London?

You will be called upon this year to elect Six Members, instead of five as at present, and without presuming to dictate to the Electors I may perhaps add that in Mr. Murphy—my present colleague—and in Mr. STANLEY KEMP-WELCH I believe you would find Representatives willing to devote themselves thoroughly to your interests, and heartily in sympathy, like myself, with the general policy of the present Board. Every Elector in the Lambeth Division will be entitled to Six Votes, which may either be given to one Candidate, or divided at the discretion of the Voter. I will only add in conclusion that, should you again honour me with your suffrages, no effort shall be wanting on my part to justify your renewed confidence.

Yours faithfully.

JAMES STIFF.

London Pottery, High Street, Lambeth.
October 5th, 1876.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE CITIZENS OF LONDON.

FELLOW CITIZENS,-

Fellow Citiens,—

I ask you to return me again as one of the City Representatives at the London School Board. I rest my claim to your support on the fact that throughout my life I have earnestly devoted my time and energy to the elevation and mental improvement of the very classes for whose education your School Board was called into existence. I rejoice to recognise its great services, and to see how much it has already effected. It has erected, or is erecting, over 200 commodious and substantial schools. The total number of scholars has been doubled since the passing of the Act. Indeed, it has laid broadly and surely the foundation of a system which, improved as it will be, will secure cultivated intelligence to every London child.

I am a friend to true economy. No more should be spent than is absolutely needed for the attainment of our great cobject. Beyond that, not a farthing should be taken from the pocket of the retepyer. Compulsion will be less and less needed every year, for the people will soon come to regard their schools with pride, and will take a deeper interest in their children's progress. All statesmen are ready to act nowledge that, in order to maintain our prosperity in the markets of the world, we must put our working classes on an equal footing as to taste and intellectual culture with the foreign workmen with whom we have to compete. I rest my hope of being returned by you on the sacrifices I have made for so many years to promote throughout the country the mental, moral, and artistic education of the English people. the mental, moral, and artistic education of the English

I therefore respectfully solicit your votes, and have the honour to remain,

Your faithful servant,

JOHN BENNETT. Cheapside, October 14, 1876.

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Midsummer Examination of the Royal College of Preceptors. Twelve Prizes given by the Council. Six are this summer taken by Pupils of this School, viz.:

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1st Mathematics.
1st Natural Science.
2nd Classics.

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SCHOOL BOARD FOR LONDON.

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE BOROUGH OF HACKNEY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,-

In response to a general desire expressed in a manner which must necessarily command my respect, I have the honour to offer myself as a candidate for re-election to the School Board for London. The six years' experience I have already had in your service in no respect shakes my coufficence in the principles originally announced. I still adhere to the belief, that national elementary instruction, in order to be both just and effective, ought to be SCULLAR, COM-PULSORY, and FREE. By the word "secular" I do not mean irreligious, but non-theological. By "compulsory" I mean that, while the rights of parents ought to be jealously guarded, those rights do not extend to the cruelty of bringing up children in helpless ignorance. By free instruction I do not mean charity, but payment through rates and taxes, rather than through school fees.

While, however, I think it only honest to declare once more my unsiltered convictions on these points, I am well aware that, during the next three years, the immediate and practical issues to be fought out are likely to be of a different character. And my past conduct will prove, I hope, that I am not likely to neglect the business of to-day because my principles are those of the future.

The opponents of the Board say that it has built too many schools already, and must not build any more. I maintain, on the contrary, that there are at the present moment more than 150,000 children in Loudon, who could not go to any efficient school if they would, for the best of all reasons—that there are no schools for them to go to. I am not prepared to sacrifice these children either to sectarian interests, or to false economy.

The opponents of the Board say that it has spent too much money. Feeling the burden of the rates myself, I am willing to favour any reasonable proposal for reducing them. But of all unreasonable suggestions I have ever heard, I think the most unreasonable suggestions I have ever heard, I think the most unreasonable is that of saving the rates by starving the minds of our

state of things, I think we should blush that we have tole-rated the reign of ignorance so long.

If you should do me the honour of returning me to the Board once more, I hope to act as I have done hitherto, en-deavouring to secure that at as small a cost as possible the elements of knowledge shall be brought within the reach of every child in London; and offering a resolute opposition to eyery attempt that may be made to reverse, in the interest of faction or of sect, the generally beneficent policy hitherto nursued.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your faithful servant, J. ALLANSON PICTON. Thomas' Square, Hackney, October 17th, 1876.

ONDON CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

JAMES SPICER, Esq., J.P., Chairman.
The HALF-YEARLY MEETING will be held in
MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon-street, on TUESDAY, November 7th.

Conference of Ministers and Delegates at 3. The Rev Li. D. Bevan, LL.B., will introduce the subject—"How to do our aggressive work from Church centres, and by a legitimate use of Church agencies."

A Public Meeting in the evening at 7, when Addresses will be delivered by the Rev. John Foster, the Rev. W. M. Statham, and the Rev. J. Parker, D.D.

ANDREW MEARNS, Secretary. Memorial Hall, E.C., 24th October, 1876.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

• One or two communications have come to hand altogether too late to be available this week.

The Monconformist.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1876.

SUMMARY.

THE past week has been a disastrous one to the Servians and to the Great Power which has so long been their champion. While negotiations for a six weeks' armistice were being spun out at Constantinople between General Ignatieff and the Porte, the Turkish army, reinforced by some 20,000 fresh troops, made repeated attacks on the strong defences in front of Alexinatz and Deligrad. These several engagements lasted four days, during which the Ottoman forces took one position after another in the Morava Valley, the Russian volunteers bearing the brunt of the attack, and losing, it is said, in killed and wounded, fifty per cent. of the number engaged. There was a pause in the conflict during the heavy rains of Saturday, but on Sunday the Turks, having been again reinforced, attacked the heights of Djunis, the key of the Servian position, and carried them by assault, thus cutting the enemy's forces in two. This disastrous result is said to have been partly owing to the Servian artillerymen, who, being irritated at Tchernayeff's contemptuous bearing towards them, refused to fight, and abandoned their positions, remaining deaf to all remonstrances urging them to do their duty. The heights of Diunis were, therefore, defended by Russians alone, nearly two-thirds whom fell in this final conflict.

This morning's telegrams show that the overthrow of Prince Milan's army was overwhelming, and the losses of the Russian brigade terrible. A considerable portion of the Servian infantry, as well as the artillery, would not meet the Turks, or fled after a feeble resistance, and some of them were shot down by the Russian officers with their revolvers. The Russian volunteers are thoroughly disgusted, and speak of the Servians as a people not worth fighting for, while the latter have come to view their Russian allies with dread and hatred. On this occasion the Turkish commander-in-chief followed up his signal successes without delay. Alexinatz was taken yesterday, and is now in possession of the Turkish troops. General Tchernayeff, leaving his dead and wounded on the field, has retreated to Paratjin, abandoning Deligrad and Krujevatz, where the Servian arsenal is situated, to the victorious Turks. As the Belgrade correspondent of the Times says, Servia has nothing but old men and lads to fall back upon as reserves, and neither arms nor money; and so far as that unfortunate Principality is concerned the war is at an end.

The news of the disastrous reverse on Sunday created a complete panic at Belgrade, and Prince Milan at once took counsel of M. Kartsoff, the Russian Diplomatic Agent, who sent a despatch to Livadia praying that General Ignatieff might be instructed to urge on the Porte the immediate conclusion of an armistice. The response was quick. That diplomatist was forthwith instructed, we are specially told from St. Peters-burg, to demand from the Porte the acceptance within forty-eight hours of a six weeks' armistice and a suspension of hostilities. Should the Porte refuse to accept this ultimatum, all diplomatic relations between Russia and Turkey were to be broken off, and General Ignatioff, with the whole of the personnel of the Russian Embassy, to leave Constantinople. The ultimatum was presented on Monday, and a report from Paris states that the armistice will be proclaimed before to-morrow evening. According to a telegram from Constantinople According to a telegram from Constantinople in the Daily Telegraph, an armistice for two months has been actually signed. But the conditions, which must necessarily be of great importance, are not announced. No doubt the Telegraph, by supporting the Turks through thick and thin, has entitled itself to the production of the contraction. But our contraction of the contraction. early and exclusive information. But our contemporary, in asserting that the armistice for six weeks was agreed to by the Porte on Sunday afternoon, proves too much. If that was the case, how comes it that, after a day's entire inaction, hostilities were resumed yesterday when Alexinatz was taken?

However, the war in Servia is now probably at an end, owing to the forced submission of the Porte under Russian threats. The rumours of the last week that Roumania on the one side,

and Greece on the other, are on the point of breaking with the Ottoman Government are not likely to be realised. In the negotiations that will now ensue Russia will, no doubt, fall back upon Lord Derby's proposals for a definite peace, and urge the assembling of a European Conference to settle the details. But the whole difficulty will, as heretofore, resolve itself into a question of "effectual guarantees" on which the Treaty Powers are not likely to agree, at d to which Turkey is sure to offer a dogged resistance.

The French Chambers reassembled on Monday, but there was no Message from the President, nor is there any prospect of exciting scenes. All political sections wisely refrain from stirring up debates on the Eastern Question, and are quite ready to imitate in the tribune the reserve which the Duc Decazes observes as a diplomatist. France is not only quiet, but prosperous. Her revenue is expanding to an unprecedented degree. The Republican leader, M. Gambetta, responds to the present national feeling. In his address to his constituents at Belleville the other day, he deprecated the demand for an immediate amnesty for the Communists, and in recommending patience and steady progress he was actually applauded by his Radical supporters!

On the same day the German Parliament was opened, the Speech from the Throne not being delivered by the Emperor in person. The references of the message to present Eastern complications are just what might have been completed. "The foreign relations of Garman" expected. "The foreign relations of Germany," it is said, "are, noth with standing the present difficulties of the political situation, in full accord with the pacific policy pursued by His Majesty. His Majesty's constant and assiduous endeavour is to preserve friendly relations with endeavour is to preserve friendly relations with all Powers, especially with those connected with Germany by ties of neighbourhood and history, and, as far as peace may be endangered among such, to preserve it by friendly mediation among them." Further, we read that "whatever the future may have in store, Germany may rest assured that the blood of her sons will be sacrificed or risked only for the protection of her own honour and her own interests." sentiments are in harmony with what is known of the recent policy of Prince Bismarck, which has been in general accord with that of the Government of St. Petersburg, but with the paramount object of preserving peace, although the tone of the Liberal newspapers has of late been decidedly adverse to Russia. During the week the elections for the Prussian House of Deputies have taken place. The Liberals, both moderate and alvanced, are in greater force than ever, their gains being at the expense of the Conservatives and Ultramontanes. The latter, after prodigious efforts, have lost four or five seats, and where they have been successful their majorities have diminished. Prince Bismarck is sure of adequate support in the Landtag in his domestic policy, but he will be controlled by the mass of Liberal members.

During the week Lord Carnarvon has received a deputation of influential persons connected with South Africa, to whom his lordship announced that he had prepared the outlines of a permissive bill enabling any of the colonies of that region to enter the proposed Confederation, which, while it is intended to bind the several provinces more closely together, will, as far as possible, preserve their individuality and local immunities. Before Parliament meets the several colonies will have an opportunity of considering the scheme. The Colonial Minister has strengthened the British force at Natal by the addition of another regiment. seems to be There pause in the war which the Transvaal Republic has without adequate cause waged against the Kaffirs. President Burgers, of that State, is averse to the idea of coming under the protection of the British flag, but the prevalent feeling of those over whom he rules is said to be for confederation as the result of the disastrous conflict in

which they have been engaged.

The gratifying and unexpected news of the return of the Arctic exploring ships is a welcome relief to the wearisome Eastern Question. The Discovery and the Alert did their utmost to solve an insoluble problem, and failed simply because the North Pole is inaccessible. By means of their sledge parties, which, at great risk and under terrible hardships, penetrated to within four hundred miles of the Pole, they ascertained that a frozen sea blocks the way. With little loss of life Captain Nares and the gallant men under his command safely effected their return to warmer latitudes, and arrived off Valencia on Friday last to receive the cordial congratulations of their countrymen on the results of their meritorious enterprise. We have commented below on the interesting event,

RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY AND SERVIAN DEFEAT.

Down to the present time of writing no armistice has been signed. News of an agreement between Turkey and the six Powers on this head has been hourly expected. As yet, however, no such gratifying tidings have arrived. At Constantinople, an armistice for six weeks, capable of being prolonged to three months should there be a probability of successful peace negotiations, is believed to be morally certain. General Ignatieff, the representative of the Czar at Constantinople, has, since his return to his post, moved on a much more moderate line of policy than the rumeurs of a fortnight since had led Europe to anticipate. He has met the representatives of the Powers at Constantinople upon an easy and apparently a cordial footing. He has made known to them the adherence of Russia to the proposal of England, subsequently dropped, of a six weeks' armistice. He has produced a general impression that His Imperial Master has no wish to see things go so far as to compel him to intervene. He has had a private audience of the Sultan, and has laid before him, in as conciliatory a manner as possible, the demands of the Powers in reference to a cessation of hostilities. He has assented, on behalf of Russia, with the concurrence, we believe, of Germany, Austria, Italy, and France, to a compromise providing for the extension of the armistice should the progress of negotiations appear to render it advisable. The reply of the Sultan's Council of Ministers has not yet been received. It is awaited with great anxiety by the various capitals of Europe. As we have intimated, it is expected to be favourable, but until the decisive word has been spoken the existing tension cannot be much relaxed. "There is many a slip between the cup and the lip," and it is just possible that the latest news from Servia, combined with the reserved attitude of England, may encourage the Turkish Cabinet to attempt some further evasion of the simple proposal to which it has been pinned.

It is incontestable that the Servian army has met with a terrible reverse in the Morava Valley. Djunis was captured by the Turks on Sunday afternoon. The Servian line was thereby cut in two, Horvatovitch being separated from the rest of the army on the right wing. He remains between the Turks and Krujevatz, and if the Turks have strength enough to hold their rear against Tchernayess whilst seeking to overwhelm him, they will have opened their road into the Morava Valley in the rear of Deligrad. The way will then be open to them to march forward to Belgrade, and, as far as arms are concerned, the campaign may then be regarded as finished. But it has not been the custom of the Turkish commanders (in this war at least) to take prompt advantage of their opportunities. They have not seemed to know what to do with them. Their difficulty arises perhaps from the imperfect organisation of their Commissariat and of their Transportation Corps. But, be the cause what it may, they have always, after decisive victories, or what ought to have been decirive, allowed their enemies sufficient time to put serious obstacles in the way of their further advance. It may be the case in the present instance, although the blank refusal of the Servian Militia to obey the commands of their Russian officers, to which the reverse of Sunday last is attributed, may encourage the Turkish pashas to make the best of their time, and to push on to Belgrade. In the judgment of competent military critics there are no insuperable difficulties in the way of this being achieved, and it may happen that the Turkish Ministers would prefer to treat of an armistice after they have visibly subjugated the vassal Principality.

It will be no doubt an exercise of determined self-abnegation in the Ministers of the Porte to stop short in the midst, by diplomatic arrangements, the triumphs they might so easily purchase by their arms. It is even a question whether, if Russia were provoked to a military intervention, there would be time for her forces to intercept the Turks from the Servian capital. If such be the state of things, the Turks may have an immediate advantage over the Russians in pending diplomatic differences. It is a question whether Turkish pride can resist the temptation to gratify itself on the instant without regard to what must follow in the way of punishment at no distant period. For it is lamentable to think that the blood which is now being shed upon the Servian heights is being shed for no lasting purpose. No successes will give Servia back to the dominion of the Turk, and no reverses which the principality can sustain will place her in a worse position than she was before the war. This consideration, perhaps, may moderate the passions of all parties. The Porte may be conscious of no little remaining vitality, though her rulers must be aware that it is becoming rapidly exhausted; and Russia may be wellconvinced that a forcible intervention in aid of Servia (should it be too late) would bring with it immense responsibilities without any corresponding benefit either to herself or to her

There are said to be symptoms of a decided falling-off in the migration of Russian volunteers to the camp of General Tchernayeff. There is undoubtedly an indisposition on the part of the Servian rulers and people to welcome Russian support in that shape. They would be glad, no doubt, that the army of the Czar should regularly take the field on their behalf. As it is, they are ousted from every post of authority, and are made to feel all the daily humiliations of a secondary position. It is, however, clear that Russia may even hope to control the Sclavonian element of her policy without being forced into extremes, and that she may place herself without danger, and remain as circumstances may require, in full accord with the other guaranteeing Powers.

FROM THE NORTH POLE.

The interest taken by the English people in the subject of Arctic research will not be diminished by the results of the expedition under Captain Nares, which, after an absence of nearly eighteen months, has now safely returned to this country. It is true that the expedition has not been able to get very much nearer to the North Pole than Sir Edward Parry, but we doubt whether an eager desire to solve an apparently insoluble problem has much to do with the public interest in the subject. The nation is mainly concerned in upholding the traditional reputation of the navy, and in advancing the cause of geographical research. If an expedition is able to perform a series of gallant achievements, or to make some additional contributions to our knowledge of the "thrilling regions of thick-ribbed ice," the country is well content to leave the enigma of the North Pole—if it be an enigma—to be solved by future navigators. Indeed, we even doubt whether people would be altogether well satisfied if a mystery were no longer attached to the North Pole. If that geographical problem were once for all settled, beyond the reach of controversy, we should find ourselves somewhatin Alexander's position when he had no more worlds to conquer; and, moreover, if the mystery were absolutely cleared up, perhaps many persons would feel aggrieved at the simplicity of the explanation. We shall be greatly surprised if the experiences of the "Alert" and the "Discovery" do not enable many of the too sanguine advocates of Arctic explorations to see the matter in the light of a clearer commonsense than has hitherto dawned upon them. Captain Nares's laconic telegram—"Pole impracticable"—accurately describes the issue of his expedition, so far as its main object is concerned; but we think that no one can read the details which have been published without arriving at the conclusion that even if the Pole had been practicable, we should really have know—that Commander Markham, like Sir Edward Parry, would simply have travelled at the rate of a mile a d

Thus far, it may be said, it is reasonable to regard the question of the North Pole as virtually settled. The "Discovery" having been secured for the winter a few miles to the north of Polaris Bay, the "Alert" pushed slowly onward, rounding the north-east coast of Grant Land in the expectation of finding a continuous coast - line, whereas what she found was not land but an extensive sea of impenetrable ice. Here, in latitude 82 deg. 27 min., the Alert reached a more northerly position than any other ship had ever done; and from this point, when the Arctic winter was over, Commander Markham and Liqutenaut Parr did exactly what Parry had done fifty years before. In the face of the most stupendous difficulties and dangers they undertook a sledge journey in the direction of the North Pole. Their road lay across "a chaotic wilderness of angular blocks of all shapes and sizes, varying in height up to fifty feet above water, and frequently covering an area upwards of a mile in diameter. Step by step, a roadway had to be formed with pickaxes; and, in the end, after having actually made a journey equal to 276 miles in length, they succeeded in placing a distance of seventy-three miles between themselves and the ship, planting the British flag in latitude 83 deg. 20 min. and 26 sec., and thus advancing sixty-four miles nearer to the Pole than any of their predecessors. There can be no moral doubt that the space that intervened

between them and the goal which it was their vain endeavour to reach did not differ in character from the frightful solitudes through which they passed. The chimera of an open Polar sea has been effectually exploded. Kane's glimpse of "an open sea refulgent in northern sunshine" seems to have had no more reality than a mirage. No milder temperature, no silvery water teeming with life, woos the navigator on to the place where nature is ready to yield up the secret which for four hundred years has eluded the search of man. If Commander Markham had been able to advance his sledges four hundred miles beyond the point of latitude which he actually reached, he would still have had to describe a region equally awful in its desolation and in the physical obstacles it presented to the explorer. The thickness of the ice, no less than the peculiarities of its formation, justifies this belief. Ordinary ice is from two to ten feet thick, but the ice of the Polar sea measured from eighty to 120 feet in thickness. We repeat that these stern facts dissipate the theory of an open Polar sea, and bring home the consistion that although we have not reached the viction that although we have not reached the Pole we have practically discovered its secret. Nevertheless, it is quite possible that on one point there will be room for controversy. In an article we wrote on this subject in June last year, we called attention to the fact that Captain Bent, a well-known scientific authority in the United States, expressed an emphatic opinion that the only way to reach the North Pole was by following the course of the Gulf Stream; and, moreover, he put on record his opinion that the expedition was leaving for its destination several months too early. Whether there be anything in this view or not, it can hardly fail again to become a subject of con-

troversy among American geographers.

The expedition appears to have contributed not a little—although at a heavy sacrifice of valuable lives—to our knowledge of the physical configuration, the mineral resources, and the animal life of the Arctic regions. It has made known the limits beyond which neither animal nor vegetable nature has an existence. It has shown that the so-called President's Land of American navigators does not exist, but that a low dark cloud has probably given the semblance of reality to what we must now regard as an optical illusion. It has traced the northern boundaries of Greenland; discovered coal where it was previously unknown; established in more than one instance the fact that what appears on the map as a strait is in reality a bay; and added many new specimens to our natural history collections. Whether these results justify the expense which the nation has incurred in fitting out and main-taining the expedition, or the risks to which several hundreds of our bravest and best seamen have been exposed, is a question which, if discussed in cold blood, might possibly admit of only one prosaic answer. But of the priceless value of the expedition as an exhibition of combined moral and physical power-beneficently exercisedthere is no room for doubt. From Captain Nares, of whom everyone speaks almost in terms of veneration, down to the humblest seaman, an example has been given of courage and self-control which cannot fail to be beneficial to the national character. The sledging expedition in particular, afforded a rare scope for individual prowess and self-sacrifice, but perhaps the most hereigness eat was Ligatenant Parrie haps the most heroic act was Lieutenant Parr's lonely walk of thirty-five miles over soft snow and heavily broken up ice, in which, it is said, he was guided by the fresh track of a roaming wolf. So long as we have such heroes amongst us, we need not despair of Old England.

Sir Titus Salt, Bart., has sent a donation of 50l, to the Howard Association (5, Bishopsgate Without, E.C.) A donation of a similar amount was recently sent by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., to the same Association, in support of its useful labours for the prevention and diminution of crime.

A Parisian Sensational Story.—It is not so very long since a young man, well dressed, and apparently rich, entered a clandestine gaminghouse. He was playing at trente-et-quarante, and had already won a little pile of gold. "Red wins," presently said the banker, and proceeded to hand over a hundred napoleons to the unknown one, for the stakes were high. But the stranger made no attempt to take the gold, and returned no answer to three or four questions put to him in reference to the game. His eyes remained fixed on the red, while his features assumed a ghastly paleness. A player touched his arm—he was dead. Then the banker coldly withdrew the hundred napoleons, observing that play was in the nature of a reciprocal contract, which could only be entered into between parties both of whom were capable of contracting, and therefore never between a live man and a dead one. The cause of death was heart disease, and the official report was soon drawn up in proper form. It contained, as may be imagined, no sort of reference to a gaming-house.

Miterature.

SELECTIONS FROM LORD MACAULAY'S WRITINGS.*

There is great risk in making selections from such a writer as Lord Macaulay that the selector may fall between two stools, though it may be true that, as Mr. Trevelyan says, few writers more readily yield themselves to extract. The desire to be exhaustive will conflict with the one essential of variety; which is, above all, needful, if the book is to recommend itself to many beyond those who already have access to the author. And, indeed, if the element of variety is well attained, the volume is certain to be found of great service to students, and at the same time as a sort of general and easily-managed index. We know that in the case of the selections from Edward Irving and Dr. Newman, the volumes were highly prized by students in this respect. We are not sure that in this aspect these selections—which seem also to aim at being something of a school-book will be found so serviceable. Under the head of "Historical Scenes," for example, we have no fewer than seven battle-pieces—Sedgmoor, Londonderry, Killiecrankie, the Boyne, La Hogue, Linden, and Plassey—relieved only by Hogue, Linden, and Plassey—relieved only by the "Impeachment of Warren Hastings" and the "Landing of the Prince of Orange," which looks like a little bread to a vast deal of sack. Battle-pieces are the things for boys, but here we have too much almost for them. Where is the eloquent picture of the "Trial of the Judges," where the short but complete description of Richard Baxter before Judge Leffices or the newerful and touching description of Richard Baxter before Judge Jeffries, or the powerful and touching death-scene of the great Argyle. A dozen of such slighter extracts might have gone into the space occupied by one of these battle-pieces, and done something to give the needful relief. Of the other sections of the book there is less to be said on this head. We have "Historical Portraits" of Charles the Second, William of Orange, Sir William Temple, Samuel Johnson, Frederick the Great, Horace Walpole, and some others: then "Historical Walpole, and some others; then "Historical Sketches," which contains "The Puritans," "The Jesuits," "The Revolution," "Death of Queen Mary," "Visit of Peter the Great," &c. Under the head of "Literary Criticism," we have "Milton's Poetry," the "Pilgrim's Progress," "Horace Walpole's Writings," "Lord Byron," &c. But we confess that to us the long pass-&c. But we confess that to us the long passage on the "Controversy about the Epistles of Phalaris" seem rather out of place in such a volume. The best section of all, perhaps, for variety is the "Miscellaneous," which might better have been termed "Social"; for it is wholly concerned with manners and with social changes, dealing a good deal with the seventeenth century, as we might indeed expect— the first part of the "History" readily yielding many such passages. The volume winds up with some bits of poetry-pieces from the Roman "Lays," and the "Armada" and "Ivry"; but something better might surely have filled the space occupied by the "Epitaph on a Jacobite" which is quite after the order of the verses

produced by the generation before Macaulay.

It has been well said that nothing tests an author more than systematically to make extracts from him. These selections from Macaulay's writings once more compel the acknowledgment on his behalf that he was a most eloquent, graceful, and picturesque author. He was not prone to miss a point that could lend itself to effective arrangement. But the process of selection tells also in another way in his case. His power lay in diffuseness, in expansion-in the outward and superficial contrast of one period with another, of one character with another, and one scene with another. He was a master of sustained contrast. It may seem a bold thing to say of so eminent a writer; but it is the simple truth—that there is not a single sentence in the whole course of this volume, which from its flash of original insight, its condensation of deep thought, its final discrimination of motives, separates itself, so to say, from its context and stands forth ever-memorable, as do sentences in the writings of Carlyle, De Quincey, or even of Sydney Smith. And he was no philosopher; he had little or no power in making clear the abstract to himself or to others, while yet he would meddle with it. In going over his essays for a special purpose, we have been anew surprised to find how inconsistent and contradictory he is in his declara-tions on many points—especially respecting the nature of imagination and its function in poetry. At one place we are told that the truth "that is essential to poetry is the truth

^{*} Selections from the Writings of Lord Macaulay. Edited, with Occasional Notes, by George Otto Trevelyan, M.P. (Longmans and Co.)

society we may expect to find the poetical tem-perament in the highest state of perfection." He makes no exception in the drama, but tells us in his next essay that its "real aim is the exhibition of human character," and that this is subject to no arbitrary law save what lies in its own nature. Then a step further on he ventures the assertion that history, in its perfection, "is a compound of poetry and philo-sophy," surely forgetful of his axiom that the "truth essential to poetry is the truth of madness"; and a little further on still, he declares of Sir James Mackintosh—"He was not, we think, gifted with poetical imagination. But that lower kind of imagination which is necessary to the historian he had in large measure." Here, then, we learn that in Macaulay's view there are two whells distinct hinds of imagination. there are two wholly distinct kinds of imagination, one poetical and one not-that that which is purely poetical is the "truth of madness," and that that which is not so, is that which is necessary to the historian. But, then, what of the definition that "history, in its ideal perfec-tion, is a compound (mark the term!) of poetry and philosophy. But the imagina-tion necessary to the historian, he has distinctly told us, is not poetical, notwithstanding that he facilely writes that "the great mass of men must have images." Then, very awkwardly for himself, he tells us that "the poetical faculty was powerful in Bacon's mind and that no imagination was ever at once so strong and so thoroughly subjugated." This is simply confusing, since poetical faculty seems once more to be identified with imagination broadly, and we do wish that he had cate-gorically told us whether it was the lower imagination he found in Mackintosh, or the higher poetical imagination he denied to Sir James, that he found in Bacon. Here Macaulay is not clear. Then in the essay on the "Comic Dramatists of the Restoration," he lays down a very rigorous law in opposition to Charles Lamb who (poor wag that he was!) wanted to gain some shelter for these playful spirits of that gay bygone time by pleading that theirs was an ideal world, a fairy-land not amenable to the harsh touch of real conventions; in fact, he unconsciously quoted in effect Macaulay's own words that the truth of their poetry was the truth of madness, and that if there was a lower imagination, there was a higher and purely poetical one and that it was this poetical one that the Comic Dramatists of the Restoration exercised! Then, further on still, in the essay on Dryden, though Macaulay is pursued by the idea to which he has so pinned his faith, that the rude ages are the most poetical, he rather inconsistently tells us, that "when the instruments by which the imagination works are brought to perfection. . . . men produce far better works of imagination," which it would be difficult any way to square with his it would be difficult any way to square with his broad assertion that the poetical temperament is in most perfection in rude ages. In a word, this clear writer, and, as some call him, clear thinker, has confused a pure assumption with statements having reference to facts that can so far be verified; and he never seems to have thoroughly cleared the matter up in his own mind, not to speak of making it clear to others. For it is a mere assumption that the rude primitive ages were more poetical than later ones; just as it is an assumption that certain birds on the wing consciously enjoy the move-ment of flight. They may, or they may not —we cannot verify the statement; but this we know, that they are pursued by the ne-cessities of life, and to live, must catch their prey; and the same thing applies to the rude, primitive men-about whose imaginations we can at best but guess; when we come to later iges we can roughly contrast and compare, and in a general way, at all events, verify by applying a critical test to actual productions that may be said to come under some general designation. But, just as Lord Macaulay never made quite clear the distinction between the lower imagination and the higher poetical one so he fails sometimes to make his indivi-dual criticisms precise; as when, for one instance, he blames the presence of imagination (whether lower or higher?) in Mr. Gladstone for many defects, thus: "Mr. Gladstone's style bears a remarkable analogy to his mode of thinking, and, indeed, exercises great influence on his mode of thinking. His rhetoric, though often good of its kind, darkens and perplexes the logic which it should illustrate. Half his acuteness and diligence, with a barren imagination and scanty vocabulary, would have saved him from almost all his mistakes"—a generalisation which may have somewhat wider scope than is allowed to it here!

Mr. Trevelyan, in his Preface, eloquently describes the merits of Macaulay as a word-painter: "Macaulay's battles and sieges are so describes the merits of Macaulay as a word-painter: "Macaulay's battles and sieges are so many ballads in prose; while the descriptions Trinity College, Cambridge. (Macmillan and Co.)

of madness"; and, again, that in a "rude state of of State trials, hard-fought elections, or society we may expect to find the poetical temstand out from the context like a purple patch, if the fabric which surrounds it were not as varied and brilliant as itself. Men have laughed for two thousand years (!) at the foolish fellow who carried about a brick as a specimen of the house which he was building; but every visitor to our national museum who has gazed on the frieze of the Parthenon, or the sculptured column from the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, knows something about the nature of Greek architectural ornament, and anybody who has examined a fragment of Indian marble-work, blazing with jasper, and agate, and lapis-lazuli, may form at least a conception of the glories of Delhi and Agra."

This is quite true; and from the wealth of picture, the grace, and fancy, and rhetorical art which disclose themselves on every page, we are fain to believe that these selections will do not a little to introduce, in the most pleasant manner, the rising generation to the works of a great English classic, who deservedly ranks as such, although he was no abstract thinker, and sometimes grievously failed in criticism because he had in full the defects of his qualities.

" SHAKESPEARE MANUAL.".

This little book-which is a very masterpiece of careful research, study, and condensation—should be in the hands of every one who wishes to follow the outs and ins of later Shakespeara criticism. For, nowadays, with Shakespeare societies, old and new, actively at work, we do not content ourselves with the old generalities. Shakespeare has been submitted to exact tests, and such an amount of analysis is bestowed. and such an amount of analysis is bestowed upon him, and with such results, as would make the critics of the last century open their eyes in blank astonishment. To one who has formed a loving acquaintance with the great dramatist, and lingered over the plays with a quiet enjoyment, but has not as yet cared to seek after critical results, there is much in these chapters that will inevitably seem radically destructive. The peculiar relations in which the playwrights of the Elizabethan time stood to each other and to each other's works—first, through personal associations, and next, through the shiftings of one or other from theatre to theatre—is vividly brought out by Mr. Fleay. There was much more of co-operation and mutual enterprise than is commonly supposed. Shakespeare worked in conjunction with Marlowe, with Middleton, with Lodge, with Green, with Dekker, with Heywood, and others. Shakespeare, again, certainly helped Ben Jonson in "Sejanus," and completed plays begun by Peele, and left by him; while as certainly plays of Shakespeare were finished or condensed by Ben Jonson and others. Mr. Flear by Ben Jonson and others. Mr. Fleay, by Ben Jonson and others. Mr. Fleay, therefore, ranges the plays usually printed as Shakespeare's, in three classes—those which are undoubtedly his, those which are doubtful, and those which are clearly of joint authorship. The plays in which Shakespeare was not sole author are set down by Mr. Fleay as the "Taming of the Shrew," "Henry VIII.," "Two Noble Kinsmen," "Pericles," and "Timon of Athens." The doubtful plays are "Titus Andronicus, "1 Henry VI.," "2 Henry VI.," "3 Henry VI.," "Contention," and a "True Tragedy." True Tragedy.

Of the various tests to which the plays have been exhaustively submitted, the prime one is versification. Mr. Fleay both presents the re-sult of the labours of others and epitomises his own. We cannot help feeling, however, when following his most admirable and lucid strictures on this subject, that one element may hardly have had the verge given to it which it ought to have had. It is this—that to draw from a general survey of the plays, after a classification to a large extent the result of mere inferential evidence, certain standards of requirement within certain periods may very easily become dangerous and misleading. We know very well that in the case of brainworkers the quality of their work and the style of their versification may vary very much within a short space of time. Shakespeare was supremely strong and spontaneous; but he was not above some of the common weaknesses. Mr. Fleay applies his tests very skilfully. In the first period he places five plays, distinguished by the vast preponderance of rhyming lines. These are, "Love's Labour Lost," which has more than 1000; "Midsummer Night's Dream," which has 850; "Romeo and Juliet," which has 650; "Romeo and Juliet," which has 650; "Richard II.," which has 530; and the "Comedy of Errors," which (though short) has 380, equivalent to 600 in a play

of ordinary length. On this group Mr. Fleay

remarks:—

Now, no other of Shakespeare's plays reaches to the number of 200 rhyming lines; and as the battle between rhymed and unrhymed compositions was fierce at this time, I feel that there is no doubt that Shakespeare joined the advocates of rhyme at first, and gradually learned to feel the superiority of blank verse; at any rate, the difference between these Five Plays of the first period as to amount of rhyme is too great, in my opinion, to admit any other play, however inferior to be ranked with them.

I find it impossible to believe that the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" was not written some two years before "The Merchant of Venice," which is so like it in metrical handling, and equally impossible to regard the "Midsummer Night's Dream" as a production of any but the earliest period, when fancy was strong, and the sense of the prose realities of life comparatively weak. Note also that the three comedies in this period all observe the unity of time, no action extending to the second day, and that they are all similar in their nature, turning on the solution, as it were, of embroilments produced under circumstances barely or only hypothetically possible.

The general characteristic of the second period

The general characteristic of the second period The general characteristic of the second period is a much smaller proportion of rhyming lines, which average only from 100 to 200 for a full play. "Much Ado" and "Merry Wives," and "Richard III," "King John," &c., belong to this period. To the third period belong "Hamlet," "Othello," "King Lear," "Troilus and Cressida," and in particular "Macbeth," which, according to Mr. Fleay, has been so much altered since its first composition, that much in it is not Shakespeare's—a palpable confusion having supervened, owing to changes and deletions, between the witches and the "weird sisters," who are presumed to have been different wholly from the former, as internal evidence sisters," who are presumed to have been different wholly from the former, as internal evidence shows drawn from the play itself. In the fourth period the rhymes fall off rapidly, and in the comedies actually disappear, the metre becoming more regular and less impassioned. This fourth period embraces "Cymbeline," "Coriolanus," "Antony and Cleopatra" the "Tempest," and the "Winter's Tale." This little list will show how far our commoner editions of Shakespeare are from presenting the plays in chronological order.

order.

"With regard to the position of the 'Taming of the Shrew," as assigned by me," says Mr. Fleay, "as also indeed for 'Timon,' 'Pericles,' Fleay, "as also indeed for 'Timon,' 'Pericles,' and 'Henry VI.,' I must ask for absolute forbearance until my special papers on these plays are read. I hope the first mentioned of these plays will not appear so misplaced as it must do now after the paper devoted to it has been studied." And we must admit that this caveat is not uncalled for. Mr. Fleay's position with respect to these plays is that a very large proportion of them is not Shakespeare's. A second part is traced in "Timon," and ascribed to Cyril Tourneur. Of the "Taming of the Shrew," he says:—"The original was written by Shakehe says :- "The original was written by Shake-speare and Marlowe in conjunction for L. Pemspeare and Marlowe in conjunction for L. Pembroke's company; Shakespeare writing the prose, and Marlowe the verse. In 1600 the 'Whole Contention,' 'Hamlet,' 'Titus Andronicus,' and the 'Taming of the Shrew,' became the property of the Chamberlain's men, all having formerly belonged to Pembroke's. Shakespeare wrote his own part of the 'Taming of the Shrew'; and Lodge rewrote Marlowe's; hence our present play, the 'Taming of the hence our present play, the 'Taming of the Shrew.' Shakespeare also rewrote 'Hamlet' (perhaps his own part only at first, Lodge helping him by rewriting Marlowe's for the first quarto). In 'Perioles' the first two acts are aid to be not by Shakespeare, nor scenes 2, 5, and 6, in Act 4.

We do not say that to most readers a good deal in Mr. Fleay's book will not come like a surprise; but it is a fine intellectual exercise to follow him; and his volume is really an indispensable preliminary to anyone who would nowadays understand the position in which later criticism has placed the plays of Shakespeare.

ROBERT BURNS IN SCHOOLS.

This is the latest addition to a series of very useful little volumes called the "English School Classics." To make Burns suitable for the use of the young required no small tact and taste; for it must be admitted that often, when Burns is in subject absolutely pure, his style of lan-guage is doubtful in view of this object. For one thing, the mixture of the Lowland Scottish dialect with English might itself present a formidable difficulty, and not unfrequently be felt to unfit a poem for general use in an English school; and, more important still, the occa-sional intrusion of terms, dramatically faithful in themselves, somewhat conflicts with that sense of propriety which it is very advisable to eccourage amongst boys. Mr. Bell has skilfully got over the first objection to a large extent by means of good judgment, and most

^{*} Poems Selected from the Works of Robert Burns. Edited, with Life of the Author, Notes, and Glossary, by ALEXANDER M. BELL, M. A., Balliol College, Oxford. (Rivingtons.)

admirable notes and a glossary. But on the other point, we cannot help having a little quarrel with him-the only serious difference we shall have. He has a right to select, but little right to alter where any expression in the original, absolutely true to its assumption of character, unfits the piece for his purpose. There are two salient cases—one of which is the song from the "Jolly Beggars"—"I am a son of Mars." That piece has no right to be placed in this collection, simply because the editor cannot include it without corrupting it. "Bowdlerising" has gone out of fashion, and must not be brought back. If Mr. Bell found the penultimate stanza unsuitable, why does he pass the last line of the closing one? There are many parents who would just as much object to a phrase which occurs in that line, and to another in the third line of the first stanza. And on his own ground we cannot think that Mr. Bell has any right to interject, and give even to boys as Burns's, a single word which is not his more than is absolutely needful for the immediate purpose. If he will simply the immediate purpose. If he will simply omit his own word "cloth'd" in that line which he has remodelled, and read "the drum" as it ought to be, instead of "a drum," at the end of the verse, he will find the metre very much improved, if not the sense also. Burns would never have used "cloth'd" in that particular place—especially when it forms only a ticular place—especially when it forms only a peccant redundancy. Besides, it is entirely out of character. But the truth is, that though this song is a work of transcendant genius, it is not suitable for a school book; and Mr. Bell indicious as he manufacture has allowed. -judicious as he generally is—has allowed per-sonal preference to lead where it ought to have

been held in abeyance.

The reperusal of these poems in this form impresses us with the elevated simplicity and natural wealth of Burns, as well as with his wide and ready sympathies. He was wise too—some of these poems set old saws to music or supersede them, as in the "Epistle to a Young Friend"—and he could aid others to guide themselves well in life, though he could not guide himself. The pawky insure the shrewed guide himself. The pawky insight, the shrewd remark, the "couthy" kindliness of the man came out everywhere, whether he tells the story of "The Twa Dogs" or writes "The Epistle to Davie." And, in spite of the errors of his life, the main thing he teaches is contentment, purity of affection, and wise selfrespect and carefulness.

Mr. Bell, too, has shown great skill in the "Life." It was, of course, a gleaning after the harvest, but it is fresh; and, if no new facts are given, old ones are illumined by characteristic touches. It is clear he has pondered Alexander Smith's admirable "Memoir" of the poet to good purpose, as well as his "Notes," no less than Carlyle's "Essay." And we are indebted to Mr. Bell for a very clear statement with respect to the Lowland genius and the Celtic genius—the which had Mr. Stopford Brooke but read he might have been saved from some of his confusions as to Burns and an assumed Celtic element in him and his poems. We are so pleased with Mr. Bell's paragraph that we

To all who study the dialects of Scotland the massive learning of Dr. Jamieson supplies a mine of information. But Jamieson lived at a time when the rational study of language was little understood. Dr. Johnson had had the sagacity to observe that "there is no tracing the connection of ancient nations but by language, and therefore I am always sorry whon any language is lost, because languages are the pedigree of nations." This last sentence might stand as the motto for many of the philological and historical discoveries for many of the philological and historical discoveries of this century, but Jamieson had not the power of applying the motto, and frequently draws wrong conclusions from the facts which he amply supplies.

He lived at a time when the works of Burns and Scott He lived at a time when the works of Burns and Scott had quickened the national feeling of Scotland, and it seemed natural to him that the people who had a distinctive history, as well as distinctive laws and customs, should also have a national language. A mistaken principle in a person of such authority spreads far, and his learned writings are to blame for false popular notions on the nature of the Scotch people and the Scotch dialect. It is frequently supposed that the Lowland Scots are akin to the Highlander in race, and that the Lowland dialect is either akin to the Gaelic, or is a vulgar deterioration of the language which educated people speak. The facts are different. The main body of the Scotch people (Scotland from the Cheviots to the Forth, perhaps aimost to the Tay) are of Saxon descent as truly as the men of Yorkshire of of Lincoln; and the Sootch dialect more or less akin to the Northumbrian, which, though fallen from its former Northumbrian, which, though fallen from its former position and power, still preserves in its decay certain early words and remnants of declension with great tenacity, and remains of decleration with great tenacity, and retains the strong pronunciation of vowels and of gutturals with a remarkable distinctness. The base and substance is Teutonic or English; but a peculiar interest attaches to the study of the dialect from this circumstance, that it has retained a con-siderable admixture of words, construction, and pro-nunciation, from the Gaelic, and of words from the French.

Words of Gaelie origin have entered the language in two ways. They have sometimes been introduced bodily from the Highlands, where they flourished in their natural state. Such words are bard, clan, claymore, corrie, sennachie, pibroch, loch, glen, and the like. A more interesting class of words have assimi-

lated themselves with the Lowland dialect from earlier lated themselves with the Lowland dialect from earlier times. The west of Scotland, even in the south, was peopled by Scots and Iri-h, various tribes of Celtic race. The people of Galloway are of Celtic race, though centuries have now elapsed since a word of native Celtic was spoken in Galloway. But no spoken language ever dies away without leaving behind something of its life; it leaves behind local pronunciation and local idiom. and local idiom.

Mr. Bell is also very clear and distinct in the relations of Burns to Nature—a point that has

often been ill-put :-

often been ill-put:—

Burns was much with Dugald Stewart, who has recorded a conversation which they had during a morning's walk on the Braid-Hills. The professor pointed out the beauty of the distant landscape; the grey hills of Perthshire, the undulating line of the Ochils, the Firth studded with islands, and the rich plain of Midlothian at their feet! "Yes," said Burns; "but," pointing to a few cottages on the opposite slope of the burn which ran at their feet, "I consider these to be the finest objects we see; for I know the worth, the affection, the pious contentment and happiness, which is to be found within them." This anecdote is characteristic of the manner in which Burns regarded the outward world. He did not go to Nature to be taught; he did not seek to find in the world around us an indwelling spirit, which is imbucd with endless variety of life, and has, according to the various aspects and moods of nature, various lessons to teach mankind.

He does not compare the merits of one natural scene He does not compare the merits of one natural scene with another, as if Nature were undergoing a competitive examination; but he approaches Nature, not to learn from her, but that she may feel with him.

All that pertains to editorial details Mr. Bell has done thoroughly—notes, tables of dates, &c., &c. But now and then he does slip into odd constructions which almost amount to "bulls." Speaking of Nelly Kirkpatrick's relation to Burns, he writes:—"As they stopped to most the constructions of the constructions of the construction of the constru at meal-time or came homewards in the evening, the girl would ask him to pull out of her hands the thietles and pricks which had gathered there as she worked." As the phrase "to pull out of one's hands" is with strictness applied to snatching what is voluntarily held in them, Mr. Bell had better have written "the girl would ask him to try and extract from her hands the thistles which had lodged in them [or fixed in them] as she worked." A few pages later he says that from this time to his dying day Burns was never in debt," but Mr. Bell in effect contradicts it in the next clause, for Burns borrowed then to pay a debt which had been on the face of the record sometime before contracted, and the sentence is confusing. The same has to be said of a sentence in p. 19, where he writes:—
"Was there not to be found in the public worship as then established something of that fervent piety which he had seen and heard in his father's house, and which has always hear. his father's house, and which has always been been practised in the life if not in the doctrines of the Church of Scotland?" But it is simply an Irish bull to say, as is here said, that piety can be practised in a doctrine or doctrines. Some of the extracts from other authors have not been carefully read, nor their punctuation followednotably the passage from Carlyle at pp. 149-50, one sentence of which should read, "Nay, was there not a touch of grace given him?"

With all defects, however, it must be said that Mr. Bell has on the whole accomplished a very difficult task well, and, in spite of these few slips, we cordially recommend the book as being generally well fitted for its purpose.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

Rules and Examples in Algebra. Part II. By the Rev. T. DALTON, M.A., Assistant Master at Eton College. (London: Macmillan and Co.) A thoroughly useful book. It contains rules, without the processes of reasoning of which they are the results, which students may easily understand and remember. These are followed by numerous dexerci which will serve as means of instruction and tests of the progress of his scholars. A chapter of miscellaneous questions, and ten examination papers are added, and make the book very complete.

Scripture Readings for Schools and Families. By CHARLOTTE M. YONGE. (Macmillan and Co.) This volume is an abridgment of one to which we called attention a short time ago. It contains the text of Scripture arranged historically without the comments of the compiler. In every other respect it is the

Ancient Classics for English Readers. Second Series. "Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius." By the Rev. James Davies, M.A. (Blackwood and Sons.) The same interest does not attach to this volume as to many of its predecessors, but it was worth compiling, if only as introductory to larger work. Of the lives of the three poets here commemorated scarcely anything is known; and their poetry is not altogether of the kind we should introduce to the youth of either sex. It is quite right. however, that an account of their lives and works should make part of a series of this kind. The volume will be of good service to the student in supplying him with models of elegant translation.

An Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation. By JEREMY BENTHAM, M.A. (Oxford: at the Clarendon Press.) This is the complete work, an abridgement of which was published by a London bookseller a few years ago. "The first edition was printed in 1780, and first published in 1789. The present edition is a careful reprint of 'A new Edition,' corrected by the author which was published in 1823." Of this edition we need say nothing beyond announcing its advent. Like all the publications of the Clarendon Press it is admirable in all mechanical respects.

ENGLISH SCHOOL CLASSICS. - Poems selected from the Works of Robert Burns. with Life of the Author, Notes, and Glossary by ALEXANDER M. BELL, M.A. (Rivingtons.) Mr. Bell shows himself to be a sympathetic and competent editor of this little volume. He has given us an excellent life of the poet, and has sketched his character justly. His selection is, to say the least of it, judicious, though we doubt whether any one who knows the poetry of Burns will be satisfied with the conditions under which the selection was made. Next to the life of the poet, the best part of the editor's work is that which has reference to the language. The fullest information needed by the English reader for reading with facility the Scottish dialect will be found. A table of literary dates from 1751 to 1800, and a few grammatical rules are prefixed; notes and a glossary are added to the poems. King Lear. Edited by the Rev. CHARLES E. MOBERLY. (Rivingtons.) This is the last issue of the "Rugby Edition" of Shakespeare's plays. Like its predecessors it is well edited, in a thoroughly scholarly manner. The introduction is not so full as that given to the Tempest on which we lately commented, but it is sympathetic and descriptive. It gives useful information on the subject of the poet's materials, and also of the local setting of the action. The notes strike us as being unnecessarily full. We have read them carefully through, and while they are generally interesting and informing, they are not at all times relevant. However, this is not a very serious fault. Introduction to Greek Prose Composition with Exercises. By A. SIDGWICK, M.A. Assistant-master at Rugby, &c. (Rivingtons.) This book assumes that the knowledge of Greek accidence has been acquired. The fullest information is given on Syntax, especially on the more difficult constructions, and on the idioms. The rules are clear, and abundantly illustrated. The exercises are not short detached sentences, but complete tales or narratives. The book is, of its kind, the best we have ever seen.

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Satan of Scripture. By a CLERGYMAN. (Smith, Elder, and Co.) The late Mr. Maurice once said that one of the articles of his creed was, "I believe in the Devil." This would appear to be almost the first article in "A Clergyman's" creed. The author does not make the devil ubiquitous or omnipotent, or omnipresent as many unconsciously do, but he invests him with powers very far short off this, and confidently traces his work throughout the history of the world. He also intimates his belief, although somewhat loosely, in the "divinely constituted economy of Satan's kingdom, power, and authority." To give some notice of the manner in which he traces him, we may state that he distinctly sees the work of the Devil both in Ritualism and in "so-called Voluntaryism," in education, and in the agitation against State Churches. The work equally abounds in narrow, self-sufficient, dogmatic assertion, and in italics and capitals of every convenient size.

Found and Burnt. By Mrs. GLADSTONE. (Religious Tract Society.) A well told tale, with good characters selected mainly from humble life. What was "found and burnt" was an old Bible, an act that ultimately led to better results than might have been expected. Mrs. Gladstone is a practised writer for the young, and has some real dramatic

Lights of the World, &c. By JOHN STOUGHTON, D.D. New Edition. (Religious Tract Society.) These sketches must be known to many of our readers. For their freshness and for the manner in which they are made to illustrate Christian truth and experience they well deserve republication. They do not profess to be perfect biographies. As the author says in the preface to the present edition, "The method adopted has been to associate with each important element in vital godliness some illustrious person, affording a proof and illustration of its existence and power. The reader must not expect to find anything like complete biographies

of those who are introduced, or even full length portraits of their spiritual character." The subjects selected are Tyndale, Hooker, Leighton, Sir Matthew Hale, Boyle, Bunyan, Baxter, Henry, Whitefield, Fletcher, Newton, and Martyn. In Dr. Stoughton's estimate of persons we do not always agree, but his skill in seizing and illustrating characteristic traits is unquestionable.

Sacred Heroes and Martyrs. By J. T. HEADLEY. Revised and Edited by J. W. KIRTON. (Ward, Lock and Tyler.) These, to quote more fully the words of the title-page, are all "biographical sketches of illustrious men of the Bible, with historical scenes and incidents, illustrating their heroic deeds, eventful career, and sublime faith." They are fairly written sketches, intentionally done into the style of the present day with no following of Biblical language. We cannot say that Mr. Headley has set his characters in any stronger light than that in which they have hitherto been presented. His style is not of the highest finish, but the essays are readable and to some persons may bring out points not formerly observed.

The Home at Greylock. By Mrs. E. PRENTISS. (Nisbet and Co.) We have here a tale from a wellknown American author. The home at Greylock was in New York and occupied by a good old Christian lady and an adopted daughter. Hither came, every year, all the members of the family to meet together and see the mother and grandmother. The incidents described being out several difficulties of family management as well as of individual experience, and have much true pathos. By-the-bye, there is a representation of Santa Claus which we commend to all who, at Christmas, will be seeking for a thorough novelty for the amusement of the

children.

My Old Letters. By Horatius Bonar, D.D. (Nisbet and Co.) We come to Dr. Horatius Bonar with high expectations in anything poetical. He has written with such sincerity and music in the hymn, that we fancy he could not fail altogether in any attempt at metre. He has founded a long blank verse poem in twelve books, on the suggestions advanced by "Old Letters," and he gives us now and then really eloquent passages. But the poem is unequal, the verse now and then becomes crude and harsh, and here and there lacks variety and fluency of movement. Dr. Bonar does not understand the art of the redundant syllable; and he has a way of sliding into nine syllable lines without true accent, such has would have startled even an early Elizabethan dramatist!

My perplexed being is unriddled here, will not pass as a good blank verse line, and it is but a specimen of many such. The matter is certainly not mended by accenting the "ed" in "perplexed." He would have been nearer his purpose to have contented himself with much more of fragmentariness in the working out of the scheme, and to have brought each part up to a higher level of finish. But we do not mean that we have not found much to admire in the poem. Dr. Bonar throws in a bit of philosophy or theological speculation with great skill, and is surprisingly good when he does give himself verge in that line. Here

is a good passage :-

The wise man's heritage is everywhere;
Nowhere the fool's, the' half a realm be his.
The wise man gleaus in every field, and finds
No mine exhausted, no truth stale or poor.
Henouring the tree, the' lowly, under which
His father and his father's father once Found shelter, he sits down beneath its shade.
For old men's words are true, he says; as thoughts
Grow milder and more mellow with their years,
And their grey hairs are comely; he would treat
The past with reverence, yet sifting still The evil from the good, and wondering when Truth, now half hidden, shall spring up in strength From the dull soil, and spread o'er every field— The rude ungracious present and the past— The tranquil past—how different in their mein, And their instruction.

We should not omit to say that the volume is printed as too much poetry is not in these days-in a fine big clear type.

No municipal contest has taken place at Stratford-on-Avon for many years. Recently, however, the Corporation discontinued the ringing of the curfew bell, and at a meeting on Thursday the townspeople, much exasperated, passed a vote of no confidence in all the retiring councillors, including the mayor.

MEMORIAL TO ROBERT RAIKES .- The Gloucester correspondent of the Bristol Post writes that a committee has been formed to collect subscriptions throughout the country for the purpose of providing a national memorial to Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday-schools; and it has been determined to place the memorial in Gloucester Cathedral, the city in which Raikes was born, where he carried out his great work, and where he was buried. The character of the memorial will have to be determined hereafter.

RETURN OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

On Friday morning the Alert, one of the two vessels which left England about eighteen months vessels which left England about eighteen months ago on a voyage of Arctic discovery, arrived in Valencia harbour. Subsequently the Discovery arrived at Queenstown. In both places the officers and crew received a most enthusiastic welcome. Each of the ships have left for Portsmouth. The results of the expedition are stated in substance in an article elsewhere. We may here state that they reached the highest latitude ever approached in the Arctic regions; that their sledging parties were within 400 miles of the North Pole; that there is no land beyond Greenland, but a Polar Sea covered with ice; and that in these high latitudes

covered with ice; and that in these high latitudes animal life ceased. The following interesting narrative is furnished by the Rev. Mr. Hodson, the chaplain of the Discovery. After referring to the first incidents of the trip, Mr. Hodson goes on to say:—"We next arrived at a settlement called Proven, where we have the Province of the Provi took on board an Esquimaux dog-driver, named Hans Christian, who had accompanied Dr. Kane, Dr. Hayes, and Captain Hall on their respective expeditions. Upernavik is the most northerly Danish settlement of importance, and from here we made our last communication by means of letters with home. We proceeded north through Baffin's Bay, and arrived at Cape York on the 25th July, where we saw a lot of highlander Esquimaux, who came in dog-sledges over the floe to the sides of the ships. We waited here two or three hours. On leaving one of our boats harpooned a narwhal. We gave a lot of skin and blubber to the Esquimaux, who devoured it most ravengualy, their manner of who devoured it most ravenously, their manner of eating it being to cram as much of it as they possible could into their mouths, and then cut off with a knife what remained outside. They are, of course, perfect savages; their upper clothing consists of sealskin with trousers of bearskin. They sists of sealskin with trousers of bearskin. They keep dog sledges, but no boats or kyaks, and they do not meet with any Europeans, and they have no firearms. We then proceeded northwards past the Crimson Cliffs, and, after a few days, arrived at Port Foulka, the winter quarters of Dr. Kane, where we spent a day, and here one party of ours had a ramble on the 'Brother John' glacier, during which they shot a bear, the only one seen during the whole time we were out. They also shot a lot of birds. The next morning we left Port Foulka and crossed Smith's Sound, being somewhat obstructed by the ice. We succeeded in reaching Cape Isabella in two days. We were delayed here about three weeks by the ice, during which we found some Esquimaux remains on shore. We saw no vestige of Dr. Hayes travels except at Port Foulka, where we found the remains of his expedition, a journal, a few books, and some documents. Foulka, where we found the remains of his expedition, a journal, a few books, and some documents. The place in which we discovered the Esquimaux remains is called Hayes Sound, and it is situated at the other side of Smith's Sound. We cruised about there some time, and gradually worked up to the north of Hayes Sound, and reached Cape Frazer, where we were delayed some few days by the ice. After that we crossed Carrady Channel by the cast side and entered Paterman's Fiord. We the east side and entered Peterman's Fiord. We left there after a few hours, and crossed the channel again, arriving in the commodious harbour on the 25th of August. This was made the winter quarters of the Discovery, and we remained there a year. The Alert left us after a couple of days, and proceeded farther northwards for fifty miles when her ceeded farther northwards for fifty miles when her further progress was obstructed by heavy ice, and she ventured on the west side of the channel, Robinson Channel, as it is there called. I should have mentioned that the Alert, which preceded the Discovery, was the first to enter a fine harbour where the Discovery wintered, and here they saw fifty-four musk oxen, eleven of which they succeeded in shooting. After the Discovery got into the harbour the crew commenced unloading her of boats, spars, &c., in order that they might prepare for winter. About a week after the frost set in, and the sea became frozen all round the ship. and and the sea became frozen all round the ship, and the crew were able to leave the ship in about a week and take to the ice. We managed a week and take to the ice. We managed to shoot a lot of musk oxen during the autumn thirty or forty, I think, and a few more in the pre-sent year. The harbour was surrounded by hills sent year. The harbour was surrounded by hills of perhaps 2,000 feet high, and we gave it the name of 'Discovery Harbour.' Close to the ship's anchorage there was a place which enabled us to land with ease. When the harbour was frozen all and short sledging exround sledging commenced, and short sledging expeditions were made, but not much was done in this way during the autumn. The harbour was, this way during the autumn. The harbour was, however, surveyed by the men and officers going out in dog sledges. We began, as soon as the ice was strong enough, to build ice-houses round the ship for magnetic observatories. We first of all built a smithy with gable ends, which was finished on the 11th of November, 1875. Our blacksmith and stoker were dressed in sealekins and mits, and they found the walls of the smithy year convenient. they found the walls of the smithy very convenient for cooling their tools. In course of time, these tools thrust hot into ice walls, bored holes right through. We built an ice theatre, which was opened on the anniversary of the Princess of Wales's birthday. The theatre took about ten days to build, and that with the whole ship's company working at it. It was sixty feet long and twenty six feet broad. The roof was made of sails, and snow and water were used for cement. The theatre, which was christened the 'Alexandra,' consisted of a green-room, a drawing-room, a stage, and an auditorium. Mr. Miller, one of our engineers, drew

out the designs. The opening piece was the farce, My Turn Next, played by some of the officers. Some songs were sung on the same day. Then, from time to time during the winter, plays were performed by the officers and men alternately. On the 5th of November we had a bonfire on the ice and burned a 'Guy,' besides letting off rockets and blue lights. We lost the sun in the middle of October, and there were splendid effects in the sky about that time. Just as the sun was low the hills assumed a golden purple tint. From the time the sun disappeared until its return the men had an extra glass of grog served out to them. A walk of a mile in length was made upon the ice by scraping away the snow, and this walk for exercise was kept clear during the winter. We also constructed a skating rink near the ship, as the surface was very rough, and we accomplished this by clearing away a large circle of snow and then pouring water over the cleared space, which soon surface was very rough, and we accomplished this by clearing away a large circle of snow and then pouring water over the cleared space, which soon became frozen into much better ice. We always kept a hole in the ice for the purpose of getting a supply of water, and the ice over this was broken every half-hour. From time to time this aperture closed up, and then it had to be sawn up or else blasted with powder, which used to shake the whole ship. The dogs were allowed to wander out on the floe, but they did not appear to mind the cold in the least. The changes in the temperature were very rapid and remarkable. I have known it to change 60 degrees in a few hours. The coldest weather we experienced was in March, when one night the glass showed 70½ degrees below zero, which is the coldest temperature yet reported by any expedition. The first intimation we had of Christmas was to hear Sergeant Makins, the boatswain's mate, and a few others going round the ship at four a.m. singing hymns and carols. In the forencon the captain and officers visited the men on the lower deck, and after admiring the Christmas decorations, distributed presents given by friends in England. The names of those for whom the presents were intended had been already affixed to them. After the distribution of the prizes cheers were given for the donors, for the captain, and for absent comrades in the Alert. The officers spent a happy Christmas Day. They had brought some sheep with them, which got frozen in the rigging, and were thus preserved. The festivities of Christmas Day wound up by the singing of the 'Roast Beef of Old England.' The winter passed without doing very much. The men had to draw fresh ice from a berg about half a mile distant on aledges for the purpose of supplying fresh water. It was perfectly dark during the whole winter, except from a berg about half a mile distant on aledges for the purpose of supplying fresh water. It was perfectly dark during the whole winter, except when we got the moon. It was dark from November until February. The sun returned on the last day of February, but we were unable to see it until the 4th March, owing to the fog and mist which prevailed. Near the end of March a sledge with two men arrived from the Alert. They had a journey of about six days in a dog sledge. Directly after they reached the Discovery preparations began to be made for sledging. Two officers and three men set out in a dog-sledge across Robeson's Channel to Hall's Rest, the winter quarters of the Polaris, to report any stores that quarters of the Polaris, to report any stores that might be found there. Five days after this another party, consisting of eight men and one officer, went on an exploration of Lady Franklin's Sound. They were supported by another sledge party of eleven men, in charge of an officer, who carried provisions, &c. There were, therefere, forty-four of the men from the Discovery employed in explorations, twenty-four being up north and twenty being engaged in Lady Franklin's Sound. The latter party were accompanied by Captain Stephenson and five men with a dog-sledge, but the captain returned in a week. The support party returned in a fortnight, with their sledge broken and damaged from the difficulties which they experienced in getting over the rugged ice. One of the men, a marine, had been attacked by frostbite, and he had to be dragged in the sledge. The explorers in Lady Franklin's Sound continued their journey until they established the fact that Lady Franklin's Sound was not what it was supposed to be, a strait, but was a sound or flord about sixty miles deep. At the end of this sound they observed three or four glaciers rolling deem the bill which were estimated to be about on an exploration of Lady Franklin's Sound. They sound they observed three or four glaciers rolling down the hills, which were estimated to be about 3,000 feet high. They also saw a herd of musk oxen, which on the approach of the expedition bolted wildly up the steep sides of the hill, throwing down great masses of loose stones. Not one of these animals could be shot, though at the time fresh food would have been desirable owing to scurvy having manifested itself. It was observed that at certain seasons these oxen were quite tame, while at other times they showed a contrary dis-position. The Lady Franklin Sound party returned after about three or four weeks. It was now May, and the weather was beginning to get very much warmer, the ice was rapidly melting, and the glass on one occasion registered 120 degrees in the sun. A few days after the return of the Lady Franklin sledge party they set out to cross to Hall's Rest, at Polaris Bay, taking with them a quantity of provisions for the purpose of supporting the North Greenland party on their way south. They North Greenland party on their way south. also carried with them a lifeboat in case the ice should break up in the channel. This was afterwards found to be a necessary precaution, for the ice had broken up and they could not have crossed to Polaris Bay but for the boat. Having laid out a depot a few miles to the north, and left two officers and two men behind with a dogsledge, they proceeded to explore Peterman's Fiord. They could not, however, proceed more than eighteen miles up, having been stopped by very heavy glaciers and ice, with large crevices. Being thus impeded, the party retraced their steps, calling at the depot near Polaris Bay. Here they found Lieutenant Rawson's party after their return from the North Greenland expedition, having lost one man by scurvy. The others were also suffering from scurvy, with the exception of Lieutenant Rawson and a marine. The man had died after reaching the place, which was about June 3, 1876, but he had not been buried. One of the two officers who had explored Peterman's Fiord was Surgeon Coppinger, and he, on joining Lieutenant Rawson, treated the men who were lying sick. The patients soon improved." soon improved."

Miscellaneous.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD, at their weekly meeting on Wednesday, were engaged for some hours in discussing various recommendations of the statistical committee relating to the provision of new schools. The recommendations of the committee were strongly opposed by Canon Barry, Mr. Foster, the Hon. and Rev. A. Legge, Mr. Peek, the Rev. R. Maguire, and others, and supported by Dr. Gladstone, Mr. Macgregor, Mr. G. M. Murphy, Sir E. H. Currie, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Waugh, Mr. Picton, and Mr. Potter. The chief argument against the recommendations was that the board was usurping the functions of the new board. The answer was that, if the board did not discharge this duty, nothing could be done for the districts concerned for twelve months, and that the new board was not in any way committed by the action now proposed to be taken. Several divisions took place, and one or two of the recommendations of the committee were adopted. After nearly four hours' discussion, and when the first of a series of proposals relating to the provision of additional school accommodation in the Tower Hamlets had been carried after a long debate, the Rev. E. Daniel moved the adjournment of the board, and withdrew, followed by those who had been in the minority. The motion for adjournment was negatived, and the second proposal with regard to the Tower Hamlets was postponed. After other business the board adjourned.

Congregational School for the Education of the Sons of Ministers.—The half-yearly THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD, at their weekly

board adjourned.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE SONS OF MINISTERS.—The half-yearly meeting and election of this school took place on Tuesday last, when five boys were elected on the foundation. The chair was eccupied by the Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., who, in a forcible speech, urged the claims of this valuable institution. He hoped that before long measures would be completed for raising the salaries of Congregational ministers, but this would still render such institutions as the Congregational School indispensable, as with a higher this would still render such institutions as the Congregational School indispensable, as with a higher social status, ministers would become more desirous of a thorough education for their sons, which they still would be unable without help to procure. He felt a deep interest in the institution, believing it was doing a most valuable work as the results showed. He wished the churches would feel it to be their duty to afford it at least a biennial colection. If one hundred churches would subscribe 10% as year or two hundred 5% it ection. If one hundred churches would subscribe 101. a - year or two hundred 51, it would relieve the committee from anxiety, and place the school in its right position. Mr. Rogers further urged the desirableness of taking into the school ten instead of five boys at this election, as also the admission of a limited number of lay pupils, both which matters were subsequently remitted to the committee for consideration. The magazine was also addressed by the Rev. J. R. mitted to the committee for consideration. The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. J. R. Verrall, B.A., F. Soden, J. Viney (hon. sec.), T. Rudd, B.A. (the principal), and Messrs. W. Hitchin, F. Reeve, and Dr. Lockhart. There were present the Revs. A. Hannay, I. V. Mummery, W. Heathcote, D. Blow, Messrs. Major, Reeve, Hall, Jacks, J. Viney, Woolacott, and others.

The Dwellings of the Poor.—A report is published by the Chief Inspector of Common

published by the Chief Inspector of Common Lodging-houses in which he enumerates cases which he has found of overcrowding in single rooms. It appears that the space allowed in sleeping rooms in common lodging-houses is about 300 cubic feet. But in single rooms, let to families, which are occupied by day and by night, as well as used for domestic purposes, the space was found in some cases not to exceed 150ft. The following is the account given by the reporter of the state of the houses in Bolton's-gardens, Turk's-row, Chelsea: "There are eighteen houses in these gardens, consisting of one and two rooms each, having four closets for the whole, and which are generally in a filthy condition, being open to the public in addi-tion to the inhabitants. In a room at No. 4, 11ft. by 11ft. 6in., and 6ft. 6in. high, having space for three persons (according to the common lodginghouses regulations), a cab-driver, earning 16s. a week, and his wife and three children—viz., son, sixteen years old, and two daughters, aged eleven and nine years—were living; rent 2s. 6d. In a room at No. 5, similar in dimensions, a bricklayers' labourer, earning 24s. a week, and his wife and our daughters, aged seventeen, thirteen, ten, and even years, were found living that 2 c. 1 even years, were found living; rent 2s 61. In a soom at No. 6, similar in dimensions, a bricklayers' abourer, earning 24s. a week, and his wife and lfour 'children — viz, son, thirteen, and three daughters, aged nine, eight, and three years, were fiving; rent 2s. 6d." This extract illustrates the

class of facts recorded in the report, which deals with cases of overcrowding in all the poorer districts of the metropolis.

MR. STANLEY'S APRICAN TRAVELS .- A memorial has been addressed to the Earl of Derby on behalf of the Committees of the Aborigines Protection and Anti-Slavery Societies, calling his lordship's attention to certain proceedings of Mr. Stauley, the African traveller, at Bambireh Island, on Lake Victoria Nyanza, which were detailed in two letters written by him, and published in the Daily Telegraph on August 7 and 10 of the present year. To this memorial the following reply has been received from the Secretary of State:—

To this memorial the following reply has been received from the Secretary of State:

Foreign Office, Oct. 21.

Sir,—The Earl of Derby has received, and has given his careful consideration to, the memorial from the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Societies, which was enclosed in your letter of the 28th ultimo, relative to the proceedings of Mr. Stanley in the interior of Africa. His lordship has read, with great regret, reports of the circumstances which seem to have taken place in connection with that traveller's explorations, and which have created such a painful impression in this country. It is, however, impossible for his lordship to take any direct action in the matter, inasmuch as, Mr. Stanley not being a British subject, Her Majesty's Government have no authority over him; but his lordship cannot but hope, looking to the character which Mr. Stanley has won in this country by his expedition in search of Dr. Livingstone, that he may eventually be able to afford some explanation or justification of his proceedings, which is not apparent from the reports which have been as yet received. I am to add that Mr. Stanley has no authority to hoist the British flag, and that Lord Derby will cause Her Majesty's Consuls on the East Coast of Africa to be instructed to intimate this to him, if any opportunity of communicating with him should be open to them. In the meanwhile, his lordship will forward co, ies of this correspondence to the United States Minister in London, in order that he may be aware of the feeling which the reports of Mr. Stanley's proceedings have aroused.

I am, Sir, &c.,
(Signed) T. V. Lister.

F. W. Chesson, Esq, Secretary of the Aborigines

F. W. Chesson, Esq., Secretary of the Aborigines
Protection Society.

CONVICTION OF DR. SLADE.—In a densely-rowded court, Mr. Flowers, the sitting magistrate at Bow-street, yesterday gave judgment in the case of Dr. Slade. Two charges were preferred against him. Under one summons he was accused, jointly with Simmonds, his sgent and entrepreneur, of conspiring to obtain money by false pretences; under a second he was prosecuted as a "rogue and vagabond," on the ground that he had used "palmistry" and other "subtle crafts, means, and devices," with the purpose of "deceiving and imposing upon" her Majesty's subjects. A vast amount of evidence was needlessly imported into the case, but the actual facts were simple enough. Some few months ago Slade came to London and gave it out, or allowed it to be given out, that people who attended his seances would receive mysterious communications from the other world. On the strength of this announcement Professor Lankester, of Exeter College, Oxford, and Dr. Donkin, of Westminster Hospital, paid a joint visit to Slade. The usual mode of procedure was adopted. According to the version of the matter given by his friends, Slade holds an empty slate under the table, and the spirits write a message on it. According to the with Simmonds, his agent and entrepreneur, of conspirits write a message on it. According to the sceptics, Slade writes the message himself. On this particular occasion—we gather from the evidence of Professor Lankester and Dr. Donkin—the dence of Professor Lankester and Dr. Donkin—the writing on the slate must have been done by Slade personally. According to the evidence given, Professor Lankester and his companion detected Slade in the very act of writing, with his own hand, upou the slate the messages which, by his own account, were written by the spirit of his deceased wife "Allie." Abundance of evidence was brought before Mr. Flowers for the purpose of showing that what Slade did could be done by any common conjurer. Testimony was also given that on several occasions highly educated and intelligent persons had visited Slade, and had seen things for which they were altogether unable to account on any ordinary hypothesis. All this, Mr. Flowers said yesterday, was absolutely irrelevant Flowers said yesterday, was absolutely irrelevant to the issues to be decided. The only two questo the issues to be decided. The only two questions on the charge-sheet were, "Ay or No?" Did Slade conspire with Simmonds to cheat Professor Lankester and Dr. Doukin? and did he use any "subtle craft, means, or device" for the same pur-As against Simmonds, there was not sufficient evidence of guilty knowledge, and the charge of conspiracy between Slade and his agent consequently fell through. The second charge, however, against Slade alone the learned magistrate held proved, and he has accordingly sentenced the "Doctor" to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. Considerable sensation was created in court by this sentence. Mr. Munton gave the usual notice of appeal. Mr. Flowers said, of course, he knew an appeal would be made, and he was rather glad than otherwise that this was so. Mr. Lewis asked for substantial bail. Mr. Enmore Jones and Mr. Weldon both declared their readiness to become bail in any amount. Mr. Flowers said he should require two sureties of 200t. each. Dr. Wylde and Mr. Enmore Jones, the previous bail, renewed their responsibilities in the larger amount of 200% each. A large crowd awaited the appearance of the defendant in the street. The tables, slates, &c., are to remain with the courtkeeper.

The New York Times states that a Rochester man has just begun a suit for divorce on the ground that his wife has a glass eye which inflicts unen-

Gleanings.

Mons. Colombier, a merchant of Paris, recently deceased, has left 6,000 dols. to a lady of Rouen, for having twenty years ago refused to marry him, "through which," says the will, "I was enabled to live independently and happily as a bachelor."

It is difficult to explain some of the great problems of Nature. It is estimated that it takes

eighteen centuries to form a foot of coal, but it is a well-known fact that a ton left out on the sidewalk will usually shrink 50 per cent. or more in a single

An Hibernian being asked what was the meaning of the phrase posthumous works, readily answered, "Why to be sure, they are books that a man writes after he is dead."

Mark Twain, speaking at a Republican meeting at Hartford a few days ago, described the Civil Service system of the United States as "so idiotic, so contemptible, so grotesque, that it would make the very savages of Dahomey jeer and the very gods of solemnity laugh."

Thousands are unable to take Cocoa because the varie ties commonly sold are mixed with starch, under the plea o rendering them soluble; while really making them thick heavy, and indigestible. This may be easily detected, for i cocoa thickens in the cup it proves the addition of starch. Cadbury's Cocoa Essence is genuine; it is therefore three times the strength of these cocoas, and a refreshing beverage like tea or coffee.

Births, Marringes, and Benths.

[A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is mad of for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

BIRTHS. MIRAMS.—August 12, at Dunedin, New Zealand, the wife of Mr. William Mirams, Merchant's Clerk, of a daughter. MIRAMS.—August 15, at Fitsroy (Melbourne), Victoria, the wife of Mr. James Mirams, M.P. for Collingwood, of

MARRIAGES.

MARRIAGES.

THOMPSON—TODD.—October 25, at Trinity Congregational Church, Forest-hill, by Rev. J. Wilson Coombs, B.A., Alfred Thompson, of Catford-b-idge, to Edith Francis, daughter of William Todd, of Lower Sydenham. YATES—BOUTH.—October 25, at the Independent Chapel, Belper, Derbyshire, by the Rev. T. Yates, father of the bridegroom, Mr. Charles William Yates, of Leicester, to Miss Ann Eliss Booth, of Belper.

GARDNER—LONGFIELD.—October 26, at Headingley Hill Congregational Church, by the Rev. W. Currie, William James Gardner, Nottingham, to Alice Mary, only daughter of the late Joseph Longfield, of Leeds.

ROBINSON—TATE.—October 26, at Renshaw-street Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. Charles Beard, B.A., Herbert John Robinson, of Aymestrey-court, Kingsland, Herefordshire, to Agnes Eatner, younger daughter of Henry Tate, of Highfield, Woolton, Liverpool, SEWELL—ELLIS.—October 26, at the Friends' Meeting House, Leicester, Joseph Stickney Sewell, of Hitchin, to Lucy, eldest daughter of the late John Ellis, of Belgrave, near Leicester.

near Leicester. WATSON-KININMONT.-October 26, at Regent

Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. J. Oswald Dykes, D.D., John Jabes Watson, Dundee, to Isabel, second daughter of the Rev. A. D. Kininmont, of Melbourne, Australia.

DEATH.

BUCKLEY.—October 25, in the 49th year of his age, Abraham Buckley, of Wilton-place, Werneth, Oldham.

FOR NOTHING.—To give an opportunity to those not yet using 'Honniman's Tea," to taste and compare its quality, the importers send gratis to all applicants a Sample Packet of the Pure Tea ss supplied to their agents, and which, for strength, delicious flavour, and cheapness, is unequalled. Write for sample to Messrs. HORNIMAN, 29, 30, 31, and 32, Wormwood street, London.

Write for sample to Messrs. HORNIMAN, 29, 30, 31, and 32, Wormwood-street, London.

DYEING AT HOME.—JUDSON'S DYES are most useful and effectual. Ribbons, silks, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid, veils, handkerchiefs, clouds, bernouses, Shetland shawls, or any small article of dress can easily be dyed in a few minutes, without soiling the hands. Violet, magenta, crimson, mauve, purple, pink, poneeau, claret, &c., Sixpence per bottle, of chemists and stationers

The LONDON DOCKS — Arresting the attention of all

THE LONDON DOCKS.—Arresting the attention of all sitors to the London Docks, there are now on the Crescent Quay two of the largest casks of wine—or, as they are technically termed, "tonnels"—ever seen in this country, and actually constructed and filled with wine in Spain and Portugal. A few coopers can remember casks as large in 1851, but these were made in England, and sent out to be 1851, but these were made in England, and sent out to be filled abroad. One of the arrivals, the Brobdignagian sherry cask, contains 638 gallons, or a quantity sufficient to fill 3,828 wine bottles. It was shipped to the special order of the Victoria Wine Company from Cadiz, and was put on board nearly filled, the necessary appliances being at hand; its almost equally bulky neighbour, the cask of port, contains 590 ga lons, or the contents of 3,540 wine bottles, and was also shipped to the special order of the above company by Messrs. Martinez, Gassiot, and Co., of Oporto. This monster had to be put into the hold of the vessel before it could be filled. The workmanship of these huge casks is very creditable to the skill of the Spanish and Portuguese coopers. The operations of the Victoria Wine Company, whose head offices are situate at Dunster House, Mark-lane, with 55 branch shops in London and the suburbs, are in keeping with the colossal casks to which we have alluded.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—During the late

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS .- During the late autumn mouths, when the atmospheric changes are alike sudden and extreme, it is a subject for grave and serious consideration how the health can be best preserved. An occasional alterative, like these Pills, will be the surest prev ntive of disease because it overcomes all derangements of the system, purifies and regulates the circulation, and gives that needful energy to the nervous structures which carries the frame triump, antly through trials to which the weak and sickly would succumb. Neuralgic pairs and rheumatic sickly would succumb. Neuralgic pains and rheumatic agonies derive present and permanent relief from diligent friction with Holloway's Ointment, which, acting as a derivative, releases the gorged and irritated blood-vessels from their congestion, and the nerves from pressure.

ANY

THROAT IRRITATION.—The throat and windpape are especially liable to inflammation, causing soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use glycerine in the form of jujubes. Glycerine, in these agreeable confections, being in proximity to the glands at the woment they are excited by the act of sucking, becomes actively healing. Sold only in 6d. and 1s. boxes (by post for 14 stamps), labelled, "James Errs and Co., Homosopathic Chemists, 48, Threadneedle-street, and 170, Piccadilly, London."

RECKITT'S PARIS BLUE.—The marked superiority of this Laundry Blue over all others, and the quick appreciation of its merits by the public has been attended by the usual result—vis., a flood of imitations. The merit of the latter mainly consists in the ingenuity exerted, not simply in imitating the square shape, but making the general appearance of the wrappers resemble that of the genuine article. The manufacturers beg therefore to caution all buyers to see "Reckitt's Paris Blue" on each packet.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.—Kinahan and Co. finding that, through the recommendation of the medical profession, the demand for their celebrated old LL Whisky for purely medicinal purposes is very great, submit with pleasure the following analysis by Dr. Hassall:—"I have very carefully and fully analysed samples of this well-known and popular whisky. The samples were soft and mellow to the taste, aromatic and ethereal to the smell.—The whisky must be pronounced to be pure, well matured, and of very excellent quality. The medical profession may feel full confidence in the purity and quality of this whisky." 20, Gt. Titchfield-st., London, W.

TOOTH-ACHE.—E. Smith, Esq., Surgeon, Sherston, near Cirencester, writes: "I have tried Bunter's Nervine in many cases of severe Toothache, and in every instance per manent relief has been obtained; I therefore strongly recommend it to the public." Of all Chemi-ts, ls. 14d.

Advertisements.

BENNETT,	65 & 64, CHEAPSIDE.
WATCHES	BENNETT'S GOLD PRESENTATION WATCHES, FROM 210 TO 2100.
CLOCKS	TO CLOCK PURCHASERS. JOHN BENNETT, having just completed great alterations in his Clock Show-Rooms, is enabled to offer to purchasers the most extensive Stock in London, comprising Clocks for the Drawing. Dining Rooms, and Presentation of the highest quality and newest designs at the lowest prices.

JOHN BENNETT, WATCH and OLOOK MANUFACTORY, 85 and 64, CHEAPSIDE.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE SONS OF MINISTERS. The following were the successful candidates for admission to this School at the Election on Tuesday, 31st Oct.

JOSIAH VINEY, Hon. Sec.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. Principals-The Misses HOWARD.

AUTUMN TERM began on THURSDAY, Sept. 21. BLACK SILKS, bought at Lyons before the great lise in prices.—Messrs. JAY were fortunate enough to purchase a week before the rise, at remarkably low prices, about £20,000 worth of BLACK SILKS, and they now offer the following advantages to their customers:

Good BLACK SILK, 3s. 11d. per yard; present value, 5s. 3d. 4s. 9d. 5s. 3d. JAY'S, Regent-street.

CAUTION.—Owing to the advance in the price of silk, a narrower width is often substituted. Messra. JAY take the liberty of advising all purchasers of Black Silk, either by pattern or otherwise, to notice the width. JAY'S, Regent-street.

TWO and a Half Guinea BLACK COSTUMES. JAY'S, Regent-street.

TWO guineas and 2½ guineas EVENING DRESSES.—The newest and most fashionable style, and made of non-crushing black tulle. Engravings of the same postage free on application.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

ELEGANT COSTUMES.—Messrs. JAY have received their PARISIAN COSTUMES. They are quite new in shape and garniture, the amplificated style of a late period is avoided, and also the tight-fitting costume which one or two French couturières introduced in the spring of this period.

The London General Mourning Warehouse, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, Regent-street, W.

WINTER HEALTH RESORT.—Glengariff, recommended by physicians for its mild but not relaxing climate. Sea-bathing, boating, fishing, shooting. &c. The ECCLES HOTEL is replete with indoor comforts and amusements—library, picture-gallery, &c. The Telegraph and Pier adjoin the Hotel. Moderate tariff during winter reporths.

EAD MASTER. The GOVERNING BODY of the WYGGESTON'S HOSPITAL BOYS' SCHOOL LEICESTER, DESIRE to RECEIVE APPLICATIONS for the post of HEAD MASTER of their new school, which is now almost com-

Pleted.

The Head-Master will receive a fixed salary of £150 a year, and Head Money after the rate of £3 for each boy up to one hundred, £2 for each boy for the second hundred, and £1 for each boy above that number. The school will accommodate about 400 boys.

A residence adjoining the school will be provided for the Master, and he will have the sole power of appointing and dismissing his assistants.

Further information and copies of the scheme of the Endowed School Commissioners may be obtained of the Clerk, to whom applications, with testimonials, must be forwarded before Friday, the 8th of December next.

(By order of the Governing Body)

(By order of the Governing Body)
A. H. BURGESS, Clerk.
Berridge-street, Leicester, 25th October, 1876.

THEOBALDS SCHOOL, London, N. Waltham Cross Rev. J. OSWALD JACKSON, Principal. FOUR VACANCIES at Christmas.

PRIVATE TUITION. — A Congregational Minis'er, residing a few miles from London, wishes to RECEIVE ONE or TWO sons of a gentleman to Board and Educate.—For terms, &c., apply to "Caph.", at Mr. Offord's, 171, Bishopagate Street, E.C.

OXFORD COUNTY MIDDLE CLASS SCHOOL (HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL), HAME,

The success of this School for thirty-six years arises from the fact that great attention is paid to subjects required in commercial life. By shave excelled in good writing, arithmetic, French, bookkeeping, and mercantile correspondence. Pupils from this school have passed the Pharasceutical Society's Examinations and the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations in Honoura. References to parents in all parts of England. Inclusive terms twenty-two or twenty-four guineas. For views and prospectus apply to the principals, Messrs. J. and J. W. Marsh.

THE ADDISCOMBE HIGH SCHOOL (Boarding) for YOUNG LADIES, MOIRA HOUSE, Upper Addiscombe, Croydon, Surrey.

Mr. and Mrs. INGHAM and the Misses CONNAH.

Conducted in consonance with the movement for the higher education of Ladies.

French, German, and Music (Practical and Theoretical) are made special objects of study, and most effectively taught.

Prospectuses, with names of Referees and full particulars, may be had on application to the Principals.

COLEBROOKE COLLEGE FOR GIRLS, GREEN LANES, LONDON, N. Principals-Misses SALMON and TUCKER.

Thorough Education. Careful training. Particulars of Frees and Studies in Prospectus.

STAMFORD TERRACE ACADEMY,

Established 1829, by the late Mr. Sunderland. Prospectuses, &c., will be forwarded on application to DANIEL F. HOWORTH, Principal.

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Reference to Ministers and others.

EDUCATIONAL HOME.—YOUNG GENTLE-MEN Boarded, Educated and TAKEN CHARGE OF during the vacations, on moderate terms.—Principal, 1, Station Road, Norwood Junction.

BOURNEMOUTH. — HEATHER DEAN COLLEGE, for YOUNG LADIES, is situated on the West Cliff. Superior advantages are offered to all for whom a sesside residence and mild climate are desirable.—Terms sent on application to the Principals, Mrs. and the Misses Fletcher.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL,

BILCOATES HOUSE, NEAR WAKEFIELD.

ESTABLISHED 1831.

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J. R. WOLSTENHOLME, M.A., Wakefield, Hon. Sec.

W. H. LEE, Esq., J.P., Wakefield, Treasurer.
J. R. WOLSTENHOLME, M.A., Wakefield, Hon. Sec.
COMMITTEE.

Rev. Robert Bruce, M.A.,
Huddersfield.
Rev.Bryan Dale, M.A., Halifax.
Rev. Chas. Illingworth, York.
Rev. J. James, F.S.S., Morley.
Rev. J. James, F.S.S., Morley.
Rev. James Rae, B.A., Batley.
Rev. J. R. Wolstenholme,
M.A., Wakefield.
The Committee of the above School have pleasure in announcing, that a new building has just been erected capable of accommodating one hundred Pupils, and specially adapted to secure their domestic comfort. "The school itself is an esce'lently-contrived building, where . . . nothing has been spared to provide fine, lofty, and well-furnished classrooms. I examined the dormitories, lavatories, &c., and found them superior to most that I have inspected. The situation cannot well be surpassed for healthiness."—Extract from the Cambridge Examiner's Report, Midsu mmer, 1874.
The course of instruction includes all branches of a sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, so as to dit the Pupils for any department of business, or for Matriculation at any University.

There are two periods of vacation: one of six weeks (at Midsummer), and one for ty-ree weeks (at Christmas).

Applications for admission to us sent to the Principal.
For Prospectuses, with a view of the School Premises, Terms, and further information, apply to the Principal or Secretary.

STARTLING NEWS GREAT CONCESSIONS. ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED BY WHICH

THE SINGER	
MANUFACTURING COMPANY_	PRICE
HAVE MADE	from
A GREAT REDUCTION	£4 4s.
IN THE PRICES OF THEIR	OR FOR
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MACHINES.	£4.
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SINGER'S SEWING HAND MACHINES TREADLE ON HIRE MAY BE PURCHASED AT 2s. 6d. RETURNED AT ANY TIME, OR PURCHASED BY CON-TINUING THE HIRE, WITHOUT INTEREST OR ADDITION TO THE COST.

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ARE SO LIGHT AND 24 4s. THAT A CHILD CAN FOR CASH, EASILY WORK THEM. £4.

CAUTION. BEWARE OF PERSONS who, having no good trade repute of their own, use our name, "SINGER," to palm off counterfeit Machines of interior construction and manufacture.

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RAST OF ENGLAND NONCONFORMIST GIRLS' SCHOOL, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, Established by the East Anglian Girls' College Company (Limited).

Chairman of the Directors - WOODHAM DEATH, Esq., Bis' oy's Stortford. Lady Principal-Miss LEWIN (late of Milton Mount Coll ge), assisted by Resident Governesses.

Visiting Professors will attend from London and Cambridge for Instrumental Music, Class Singing, Drawing, Mathematics, and Calisthenics.

Pupils will be prepared for the Cambridge Local Examination and for the South Kensington Art and Science Examination.

For Prospectuses, with revised scale of fees, apply to the Rev. T. W. Davids, Hon. Sec. pro tem., 4, St. George's-square, Upton, E.

Term commenced on Thursday, September 17.

EAST OF ENGLAND NONCONFORMIST SCHOOL CO. (Limited).

The Ninth Annual General Meeting of Shareholders was held at the School-house, Bishop's Stortford, on Tuesday,

The Ninth Annual General Meeting of Shareholders was held at the School-house, Bishop's Stortferd, on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 1876.

In the absence of the chairman of the company, Edward Grimwade, Esq., James Harvey, Esq., presided.

The Directors in their Report state that:—

"The past prosperity of the company's affairs has been in no way diminished during the year ending August 31, 1876. The general health of the scholars has been very good. The number of boys at school has averaged 126, of whom 117 are bearders, and sile rest day scholars. There is now room for thirty-our more boarders.

"As to the educational progress of the school, it was again examined in July last by the Examiner appointed by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge, and it is a matter of great congratulation that he reports favourably of the school in all respects. He says:—'The papers sent to him deserve the highest praise,' that the work of the little boys appears to be well looked after, and the teaching to be evenly and conscientiously distributed.'

"During the past year the seditions to the school buildings have been completed at a cost of £3,092. They include a new library, four new class-rooms, chemical laboratory, and studies for the senior boys, a new dormitory, and masters' sitting-rooms, as well as a fives-court, and large play-shed, 80ft long by 60ft, wide.

"Mr. G. H. Bianchi, B. A., St. Peter's College, Cambridge (first in the second class, classical honours, 1874), has been appointed classical master in the room of Mr. W. Field, and Mr. W. H. Hicks, M. A., St. John's College, Cambridge (7th wrangler, 1872), has been appointed to conduct the science classes.

"The commercial prosperity of the school again enables the directors to recommend a dividend of £5 per centum per

"The Nonconformist Gurls' College at Bishop's Stortford, a kindred scheme in which you care feel much the tendence of the directors to recommend a dividend of £5 per centum per annum for the past year, psyable on November 1. A balance of about £240 will remain after the payment of the dividend to be carried to the reserve fund,

"The Nonconformist Gurls' College at Bishop's Stortford, a kindred scheme in which your directors feel much interest,

and to which they feel they may refer, has been considerably enlarged and re-opened under the care of Miss Lewin, late of Milton Mount College, and the directors beg to recommend it to the notice of the shareholders and friends, who may peruse this report."

For particulars respecting terms of the school for applying the school for applying

For particulars respecting terms of the school, &c., apply to the Headmaster, or Mr. A. Boardman, local secretary.

TETTENHALL COLLEGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

HEAD MASTER-ALEXANDER WAUGH YOUNG, Esq., M.A. (London), Gold Medalist in Classics, late Andrew's Scholar and First Priseman in Higher Senior Mathematics of University College, London, Fellow of University College,

SECOND MASTER-JAMES SHAW, Esq., B.A., (London), First in the First class in Classical Honours at both First and Second B.A.

ASSISTED BY NINE OTHER MASTERS.

Tenable at the College.

For Prospectus and information as to Scholarships, &c., apply to the Head Master, or to the Rev. Philip P. Rowe, M.A., Secretary, Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton.

AUTUMN TERM, from SEPT. 19 to DEC 20.

A large Swimming-bath is now provided on the college premises.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—
RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A.,
Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of
the Philological Society, &c., &c.

Rev. ROBERT HARLEY, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., Corresponding Member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, Member of the London Mathematical Society, formerly Professor of Mathematics and Logic in Airedale College, Bradford, &c.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY, Esq., I.I.D. (Edin.), B.A., F.E.I.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Assistant Examiner in English in the University of London, &c., &c.

lish Text Society, Assistant Examiner in English in the University of London, &c., &c., &c.

JOHN M. LIGHTWOOD, Esq., B.A. (Lond, and Camb.), Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; First Class in Mathematics at the University of London.

JAMES WOOD, Esq., M.A. Lond. (in Branch I., Classics) A. ERLEBACH, Esq., B.A. Lond.

G. EMERY, Esq., B.A. Lond.

LADY RESIDENT—Miss COOKE.

The MICHAELMAS TERM will commence THURSDAY, September 14th.

For Prospectuses and further information, apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. B. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

TO BE LET (FOR SUNDAYS ONLY). — The ROYAL AVENUE SKATING RINK, King's-road. Chelsea.—For terms, &c., apply to S. Albert, Manager, 122, King's-road, S.W.

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change). William Macdonald Basden, Esq., 11, Great St. Helen's, and

William Macdonalli Dasden, Joseph Lloyd's, Lloyd's, Lloyd's, William Sutton Gover, Esq., 4. Queen-street-place, E.C., and Havering House, Blackheath (Chairman Markets Committee, City of London). Fountain John Hartley, Esq., Addle-street, E.C. (Hon Secretary London Sunday School Union).

William Smith, Esq., Oak Lawn, Beulah-hill, Upper Norwood.

wood.
Robert Parker Taylor, Esq., Adelaide-place, London Bridge
(Director Lambeth Baths and Washhouses Company).

Thomas White, Esq., Upper Thames-street, E.C. (Chairman City of London School).

Edward Bean Underhill, Esq., LLD., Hampstead (Hon. Sec. Baptist Missionary Society).

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Henry Gover, Esq., 40, King William-street, E.C. SECRETARY. Mr. W. H. Basden, 69, King William-street, E.C.

James Clarke, Esq., 1, Cedars-road, Clapham, and 13, Fleet-street, E.C. (Editor and Proprietor of the "Christian World").

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1. Shares may be paid up in one sum, or by quarterly instalments of £5 each. 2. All amounts paid on Shares bear £5 per cent. interest

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For full information apply to W. H. BASDEN, Secretary,

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